BULLETIN

OF THE

American Iris Society

January, 1929

No. 30

R. S. STURTEVANT, Editor

ELLA PORTER McKINNEY and MARY J. AVERETT, Associate Editors

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PRELIMINARY NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The 1929 Annual Meeting will be held in Ithaca, N. Y., on June 18th. Full details as to program and lists of hotels, train schedules, etc., will be published in the April BULLETIN.

With this meeting being held much later than usual it will make it possible for many members to attend after their season is over and will be particularly worth while as it will give the members a chance to see the Cornell Test Garden which has over 1500 varieties.

THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

THE MAKING OF THE SEAL

By B. Y. Morrison

Before planning the design of the seal for the Society, an effort was made to collect material which would relate to the Iris in mythology and art in special relation to design. The old myth of Iris, the messenger of the gods, furnishes the rainbow symbol, and the history of France the conventional fleur-de-lys figure associated with Joan of Arc, but really of earlier origin, appearing in the insignia of several kings and also in some religious paintings. Aside from this, there is little to be found in conventionalized design, although almost portrait-like figures appear in Persian miniatures, in Persian ceramics, in French tapestries and in Japanese bronzes, inlays, wood carvings and textiles.

Considered purely from the basis of design, the Iris flower, which is strongly three-parted, suggests the triangle both in silhouette and plan. This makes a difficult relation to the conventional circular pattern of the seal and necessitated a further search for ideas which would be related to Iris lore and history.

Among the old garden books known to the writer is a copy of the "Herbolario Volgare," in which the illustrations, apparently wood-cuts, have a singular force and beauty from the great simplification which was necessary in cutting the blocks. In this is an

extremely decorative figure which was used both for the Iris and the rush (acorus). The same block appears in other herbals and copies with some slight alterations in still later books. The book itself is a translation of an earlier German "Herbarius," of which the first known dated edition is from Mainz in 1484. There were many later editions and some translations. The authorship of the original work is variously assigned. Jacobus de Dondis, the Aggregator Practicus, the Aggregator Paduanus, Arnoldus de Villa Nova and Avicenna have all been credited with the work. Any one who is brave enough to undertake the very intricate and difficult German of Meyer's "Geshichte der Botanik" will find in Volume 4, pages 177–189, a learned discussion of the various claims of the several candidates for the honor.

At any rate the figure in the Italian edition was used to furnish the main part of our design and represents undoubtedly an apogon iris, probably *Iris pseudacorus*. The drawing has been modified very slightly to fit the circular form and the stork wading in the conventional waves has been omitted. The highly conventional rendering of the flowers is interesting in that in some there is an approximation of the conventional French design of the "fleur de lys" which to the writer's eye has always seemed very remote from facts.

The rainbow symbol is carried in the seven-banded border which surrounds the upper part of the seal.

From these details, freely borrowed, the writer, as a "compiler" rather than as a "designer" has made the seal illustrated, believing that they are more interesting than any pattern he might invent or any symbolism that he might create and that this conventional treatment is more suited to the purposes of the design than the more life-like representations that are so often used.

SOME IRIS CONNOTATIONS

By Mary Judson Averett

This artiele has no practical value. Its text, taken from Webster's Universal Dietionary, reads: "Connotation—implication of something other than itself." The author submits that one of the great pleasures in growing Irises is derived from the things they make you think about, that these implications trespass upon the realms of geography, history, seienee, philosophy, poetry, and others *ad infinitum,* and that the members of this Soeiety who eonfine their interest and reading to cultural and pietorial aspects deprive themselves of wealth which neither moth nor rust can corrupt nor thieves break through and steal.

Perhaps the very first of these implications to dawn upon a gardener's consciousness is that of personal association, for we are never cured of giving away plants, colleeting them from the wild, buying them for the sake of a name. One garden I know has a bed in whieh are segregated such inhabitants as are valued more for what they mean than for their appeal to the eye. In my own, the Iris Anne Leslie, growing in front of *I. pallida* Dalmatica and rising among light and dark pink pyrethrums, makes a lovely picture each June. The new Symposium drops its rating from eighty-three to seventy-four without lowering my appreciation, for every time I look at it I remember an early morning in winter when, with Anne Leslie herself and one other, I stood in the snow on the heights of Harlem watching "the unwearied sun go into eclipse above a hushed eity." To eommemorate the experienee the third member of the group got roots straight from the originator and planted them in my garden, where they eontinue to tell me a tale of

> "The spacious firmament on high
> With all the blue ethereal sky."

So must Mrs. Peckham feel about the *I. setosa* whose story she tells in Bulletin No. 12; and Mrs. Wilder about her *I. cristata alba* whieh she says eame to her "to revive her faith in prayer."

Legend elings to the very name of this genus in that ancient myth whieh tells how the flower sprang into being on that spot where fell the rainbow scarf of Iris, golden winged messenger of the gods.

Legend follows it down through Egypt, Palestine, all those Mediterranean countries swept by the Saracens, and farther away into Japan. "It is so useful to have plenty of plants with a history," writes E. A. Bowles in *My Garden in Summer,* "When one trots a Nature-study class or a local Horticultural Society round the garden it is enough to point out interesting structures, botanical peculiarities and relationships, but bodies of non-gardening folk require condensed novels, weird legends of plants with a past, such as Mistletoe and Mandrake. * * * * *I. tectorum* always makes a good text, but is better when in flower. You can work up the agony of the awful famine and the wisdom of the Japanese Government in ordering every scrap of garden ground to be planted with grain, and the despair of the ladies who depended on the Iris for hair-dye, face powder, or corn-plasters, or anything you think interests your audience—even the love of Beauty which led them to almost worship its flowers, if you have an Art class before you. The final brilliant idea of planting it on the thatch of the houses, and how it thrives there, &c., and then you had better hurry on to your next penny novelette before too many questions are asked about his none too authentic story. If only the Burning Bush, *Dictamnus Fraxinella,* would burn when you wanted it to, and New Zealand Flax, *Phormium tenax,* grow as freely here as in Ireland to provide enough leaves for each visitor to scrape and extract the strong fibre to twist into whip thongs, one could do without lying about *I. tectorum.*"

In the late summer when the last bud of *Iris dichotoma* has had its short hour of beauty and is twisted and dried, the very names on the labels fill the mind of the worker with images: images of color—white *albicans,* golden *aurea,* tawny *fulva,* veined *variegata,* particolored *versicolor;* images of form and habit—*cristata* with its crested falls, *hexagona* perhaps maturing its six-ribbed ovary, *graminea* of the grass like leaves, *foliosa* hiding its flowers in its luxurious foliage, *aphylla* now ripening for its leafless winter rest; and, best of all, images of place. On the wings of place names (geographical implications, if you please) the Iris lover may, like Thoreau, travel much in a garden area far smaller than Concord. *Persica, kashmiriana, bucharica, caucasica*—"Their names of mountain music are words with magic powers" to conjure up visions of "sky-searching" peaks, glistening ice-mantled shoulders, deep blue vales, clear, sparkling atmosphere, all flooded with the dependable sunshine of high, dry countries. But when the day's dividing and

transplanting is over and in the cool of the evening the gardener sits with his Dykes open on his knee, he discovers curious things about these geographical names: English Irises are not natives of England but of the Pyrences—more mountains—and owe their name to the fact that they happened to reach Clusius from Bristol; *Iris germanica,* instead of being a citizen of good standing in Germany, appears to be "no individual variety, but an abstraction from a group of varieties which agree" in certain characters; *Iris sibirica* comes from central Europe and Russia, being unacquainted with Siberian exile; and as for *trojana* which crowds the mind with recollected fragments of Homeric verse, *cypriana* fragrant in name whatever opinion may say of the flower, and *mesopotamica* breathing out the very air of Eden, "there is no certainty that they grow wild anywhere."

Among the bearded Irises of the twentieth century place names occur somewhat sparingly. Juniata and Brandywine, names of streams, are pleasing in their connotation because water like the Iris changes color with the light. Characteristically, Californians, with their pride of state, use place names more than other American breeders, but here, as with the species, the particular connotation depends upon your own mental furnishings. Having stood on the desert dunes in the shaft of sunset light pouring through the San Gorgonio pass and looked across the shimmering Whitewater wash to Mount San Jacinto already wrapped in shadows of purple and blue except for the touch of rose and gold on its lofty snow-bound crest, I have wondered if any flower, even an Iris, could deserve the name Jacinto. A search for other possible implications discovered the name applied to towns in California, Mississippi, Nebraska, Texas, and to a headland in Porto Rico. Moreover the word, which means hyacinth, may refer to a stone or may be "a plant name comprehending the blue Iris, the gladiolus, and the larkspur" (!); but as the most frequently recurring meaning of the roots involved in its obscure origin seems to be the idea of blueness, perhaps after all instead of a delectable mountain Mr. Berry meant to suggest to us a fashionable "Rhapsody in Blue."

The place names of species inevitably provoke curiosity as to how the individuals of such a cosmopolitan gathering found their respective ways into our gardens. That *multum in parvo,* the parenthesis following the variety name in the Symposium, hints at a history spread over centuries. The earliest date given there is "before 1600," so long ago was *Iris pallida* Dalmatica authenti-

cally recorded. Not only did soldiers and travelers bring home strange plants from far countries, but as early as the sixteenth century, perhaps earlier, men went to lands both new and old especially to search them out even as happens now. In the southern part of the United States new species of Irises are still being discovered. A method of collecting open to all of us is that practiced by Sir Michael Foster, who "had little opportunity of collecting for himself," but he let his hobby get widely known, and travelers of all kinds, especially perhaps missionaries, sent him bulbs and rhizomes. His monograph on Bulbous Irises contains frequent mention of American missionaries in the middle East. But recently I heard a globe-trotter complain that she had carefully collected Iris seeds from the wall of China, and carried them half around the world only to find at her journey's end that their kind already grew abundantly in the garden to which she had hoped she was carrying treasure.

Not particularly surprising is it to find that wild Irises have been known and collected throughout the centuries of history and even that six extinct species are said to have been described from the Tertiary deposits of Europe, but the seedling raiser, riding a hobby new and fresh to him, meets the knowledge of its antiquity with amazement. Here in his own garden grow Flavescens, a debutante in 1813, Jacquesiana in 1840, Mme. Chereau in 1834, Innocenza in 1854, and Queen of May before 1859. In one of our early Buttetins Ernest H. Krelage says that Lémon in 1842 listed over one hundred and fifty distinct varieties. In these same middle years of the last century Johann Gregor Mendel, an Austrian monk, was conducting careful experiments in cross fertilization of garden peas from which he deducted certain laws of heredity. Though his discoveries were published in 1865 they lay in oblivion for thirty-five years. "This seems inexplicable," says the Americana, "as his researches were of the nature to commend them to his studious contemporaries, among them Darwin, who entirely missed his contribution even though the Brünn society exchanged with the Royal Society of London." Yet it is to Mendel's laws that we owe many of our modern, highly rated Irises, among them San Francisco, which "is not a break or accident of plant breeding, but was carefully planned for and its advent confidently predicted by Mr. Mitchell before its first flowering in his garden."

Encouraged by this practical outcome of the seemingly irrelevant ways of garden peas, I am emboldened to record an observa-

tion on the habits of the Iris borer, even this pest being capable of a contribution to connotative garden pleasure. In the days of youth, as all A. I. S. members know, this creature feeds on the innermost, tender leaves of the growing sheaf, but in maturity it eats the stored supplies of the rhizome and *those only.* It gives up salad, as it were, and lives on potatoes. This definite change of diet becomes conspicuous in an infested bed of a species with small rhizomes like *I. tectorum.* Here I have found rhizome after rhizome completely hollowed out and abandoned, but in no single case have I found the succulent growing end damaged. Always enough is left to insure another crop of leaves and rhizomes for the next brood of larvae. May not this change of feeding habit be an adaptation to secure vegetative reproduction of the Iris for the benefit of the borer's progeny? Flowers and reproduction by seed would appear to have no value in the economy of *Macronoctua onusta* Grote.

For the benefit of any who might be interested in following the trail of implications without practical value and who find large libraries inaccessible, there is appended a short list of books reasonable in price and still available from their publishers. Like bone meal their action is slow and indirect but sure, lasting, and guaranteed to do no harm. The rhizome of an idea planted in the congenial soil of a speculative mind and nourished from an open book will put forth new shoots and flower delightfully into thoughts which come unbidden even in the busiest garden hours. "In matters of observation," said Pasteur, "chance favors only the mind which is informed."

Handbook of Garden Irises, W. R. Dykes. London: Martin Hopkinson Co. Ltd., 1924. Reviewed by Mr. Wister in Bulletin No. 12; said by Mrs. McKinney to be "indispensable to the gardener who likes also to know the bones and sinews and dismembered parts of his plants" and, I would add, to those interested in the native habitat of their garden immigrants.

The Living Plant, William F. Ganong. New York: Henry Holt and Co., 1922. A book on botany for the non-botanist, not easy but illuminated by the author's infectious delight in his subject.

Pioneers of Plant Study, Ellison Hawks. London: The Sheldon Press, 1928. Distributed in America by The Macmillan Company. Favorably noted by *Horticulture* and enthusiastically reviewed in the *National Horticultural Magazine.* It is a learned,

meaty book, like a rich plum pudding which has hardly enough containing dough for easy mastication; it supplies an essential vitamin heretofore absent from the *carte du jour* of garden literature. "It has been our endeavor," says the author, "to trace the work of the pioneers who opened up to the world some of the treasures of what is vaguely termed the vegetable kingdom, and this we have done from earliest times through the ages to the 19th century. It is hoped that in the near future it will be possible to publish a companion volume dealing with the "Pioneers of Plant Culture" and advancing the story of plant knowledge from the early 19th century to the present day, thus completing the story commenced in this first volume."

"The Development of the Tall Bearded Irises in the 19th Century," Ernest H. Krelage; "Sir Michael Foster and his Irises," Sir Arthur Hort. Both articles in BULLETIN No. 2 and both full of the flavor of personal experience.

"The Iris of Gerard's Herbal," B. Y. Morrison, BULLETIN No. 20. Five pages of photographic reproductions of the original woodcuts, liberal quotations from the quaint text, and discerning comment. Proof readers will be entertained to note that accidental mixing of picture-titles had already begun to happen as far back as 1597.

Daedalus, or Science & the Future, J. B. S. Haldane.

Prometheus, or Biology and the Advancement of Man, H. S. Jennings. These two little books belong to Dutton's To-day and To-morrow Series. While they may seem a long way from gardens and Irises, your attention is called to the fact that Tennyson's lines on the flower in the crannied wall become more obviously true with each passing year.

The Melody of Earth, An Anthology of Garden and Nature Poems from Present Day Poets, Mrs. Waldo Richards. Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1918. Uneven in quality, but well worth while.

The Gypsy Trail, An Anthology for Campers, Pauline Goldmark and Mary Hopkins. New York: Mitchell Kennerly, 1914. Of a decidedly classical bias and not particularly of gardens but any doubting Thomas of a reader will find in Bliss Carman's "April Weather" a germ always associated with garden fever and fervor.

Edna St. Vincent Millay. This young poet is garden-minded; so habitual is her use of garden imagery that it pays to read everything she writes if only for the effulgence a glancing phrase may throw upon garden commonplaces.

SIDELIGHTS ON IRIS BEHAVIOR

By J. Marion Shull

Standing in two straight rows across the garden in the spring of 1919 were more than seventy young Iris seedlings, the progeny of *Iris trojana* by Lent A. Williamson, bred together here for the first time in any garden. When they began to bloom in 1920 the uniformity of high quality was very striking. All were tall, large flowered, fragrant, and in fact few if any would have deserved a rating on intrinsic values alone lower than properly belongs to Alcazar, some being very much like that variety. No wonder then that the usual discard of seedlings, that ruthless slaughter of the innocents, was long delayed in their case.

Efforts of an Iris to reach a place in the sun when buried face down under six inches of soil from June to the following March. The lateral buds have developed into attenuated rootstocks with definite internodes and leaf scales at the nodes.

Out of these were selected in 1920 and 1921 the more outstanding individuals now widely known as Morning Splendor, Julia Marlowe, Tropic Seas, and Sir Galahad, along with several others that seemed particularly worth saving, representing considerable differences in form and color of flowers. Then, not having as yet acquired the necessary hardness of heart to pull them out, the residue were allowed to remain where they stood for a period of years, with little regard to crowding or cultivation, or in fact to anything except the enjoyment of their splendid bloom and delightful fragrance year after year. That they should have thrived here for eight years

with such slight attention, without thinning or resetting or pampering of any kind, is strong testimony concerning their quality as good citizens of the Iris world. Furthermore they afford a sidelight on the question of lime requirement of the Tall Bearded Iris, for this soil, submitted to the Bureau of Soils for testing, proved to be slightly on the acid side of neutral. Incidentally it might be added that plants from this same group were shared with a neighbor who is the head of the botany department of George Washington University and whose hobby led him to considerable lengths in providing acid soil conditions for his Ericaceae and other acid loving wildlings brought home from the woods. Into these specially prepared beds some of the rhizomes were planted and presently thrived so mightily that they threatened the life and comfort of the earlier settlers. With evidence such as this it is hard to believe that one of the first requirements of the Tall Bearded Iris can be abundance of lime as taught by so many writers both European and American. One is warranted in suspecting that whatever good effects are observed as a result of adding lime rubble or ground limestone to soils for Iris is due not to the chemical effect of lime, but entirely to improved mechanical or drainage effects so brought about.

But to return to these thriving but neglected plants. There came a time when space limits of an inexpansible garden demanded their removal to make way for things of more import if not of greater worth. Weeds were much in evidence and difficult of eradication from among the hard-pressed rhizomes, and in addition it was felt that this constituted too much of a borer paradise, or at least a quite potential factor militating against any real control of this insect pest. These several considerations converged to bring about their eviction after they had bloomed in 1927. The tops were mowed off with a scythe to intercept any borers that might be working in the foliage, as they would still be at that time. The crop of "hay" being too heavy to turn under was removed, and then to avoid the great labor of removing the rhizomes bit by bit it was decided merely to spade the ground deeply, care being taken to secure as complete and thorough burial of the plant material as possible that it might smother and decay. This ground was destined to the growing of vegetables in order to secure clean cultivation and the ultimate eradication of the Iris, and to that end carried a crop of lettuce during the latter portion of 1927.

Of course here and there spears of Iris would from time to time make their way to the surface and be hoed off like any other weeds.

Late in March, 1928, this same ground was spaded again in preparation for early spring vegetables. Now we all know with what perfect ease a twenty-dollar rhizome can depart this life when covered ever so little more than it should be with earth, but many of these things whose useful decay in the interest of a succeeding era of garden life had been sought remained quite sound and ready to carry on. Notwithstanding the fact that they had lain upon their backs all this while beneath a good six inches of soil they were making a determined effort to reach daylight and opportunity. Note from the photograph how what should have been thickened, fleshy rhizomes have instead became attenuated, slender rootstocks, burrowing upward through the confining earth. These blanched stems are clothed at nearly half-inch intervals with leaves reduced to mere scales, but once the light had been reached these would have broadened out and have developed their normal green color; the tip of the slender stalk would have thickened and started anew on its horizontal growth along the surface, and presently a splendid bloom stem would have appeared to crown their persistent efforts.

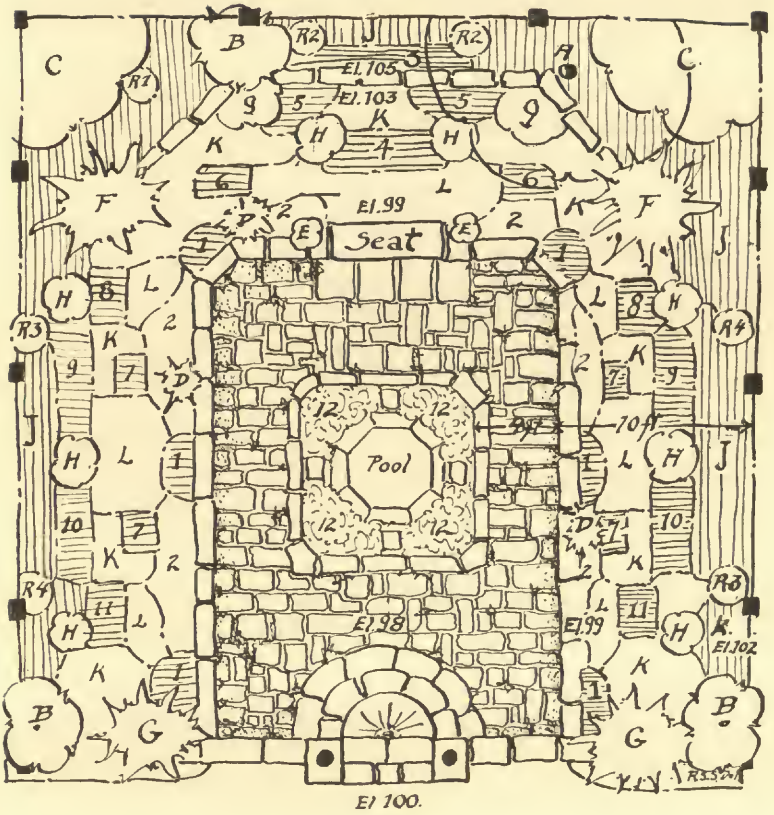
Two lessons of some import may be derived from this presentation; first for the grower of Iris in the ordinary garden there is the unavoidable postponement of bloom when an Iris is planted too deep and must undergo this process of attenuation and subsequent recovery of its position in the sun before blossom buds can be formed; and for the commercial grower who would make sure of sending out varieties true to name, the necessity of growing some other crop after Iris long enough to insure its complete disappearance before planting the same ground in Iris again.

Members will find the illustration of *Iris tectorum* and the brief accompanying text in the January issue of the National Horticultural Magazine unusually pleasant. An article on Planting and Design (the first of a series) should also have its appeal to all gardeners as it presents the elementals underlying our development of plantings for seasonal and color effect. Our interest may start with the love of color or of one sort of flower but it invariably develops into an appreciation of how these can be arranged in proper settings.

GARDEN PICTURES—3

A Wee Garden

By R. S. Sturtevant



House Terrace

Out from the north end of the big living room is a bit of lawn and then a rising sweep of meadow and orchard, the topmost trees in silhouette against the sky. Such was the site of a little garden set into the hillside, its paved central panel a few steps below the grass terrace, its inclosure a low planted wall with the flower beds sloping upward to the natural grade and crowned with a low rail support for climbing roses. Thus with the rising ground and the

roses we are shut away from the world except on the house side. Such a garden may be fitted into any bit of hillside that rises quickly from the house and though in the original we appreciate the background of orchard and hill, in a more restricted area shrub plantings would serve our need for inclosure.

The problem, as in all gardens close to the house, is to get something of an all-year-round interest. There is the small pool (well drained as it collects the water from the surrounding hillside), encircling beds which might well be partially flooded for Japanese irises. There is pavement of brick or stone or even broken slabs of concrete and its enclosing wall both ideal sites for wee rock plants. There are wide sloping beds where irises and other things for succession may rise well above eye-level, and lastly there is the gray of an old fence rail smothered in the rich foliage of roses.

In the following solutions of the plan, irises are the dominant interest and in each case their color and height has been carefully considered both as accents in the design and to pile up into a climax at the highest point (Elevation 105).

Key for Planting about New York and to the Southward.

Other Material.

A. Oxydendron arboreum. (1)
B. Taxus capitata. (3)
C. Buddleia variabilis. (2)
D. Berberis verruculosa. (3)
E. Picea Albertiana. (2)
F. Pyracantha Lalandi. (2)
G. Abelia rupestris. (4)
H. Caryopteris mastacantha. (6)
J. Aster Novae Anglae in variety and Crocus Largest Yellow dribbling down the slope.
K. Hardy Chrysanthemums and Gladiolus.
L. Nepeta Mussini and Early tulips.

Irises.

1. Tom-tit.
2. Irises cristata, gracilipes, graminea, etc., with smallest rock plants and bulbs.
3. Germaine Perthuis.
4. Queen Caterina.
5. Majestic, Moa.
6. Joya, Seminole.
7. Jubilee, Lona, King Karl, Gaviota.
8. Wedgewood, Aphrodite.
9. Santa Barbara, Mme. Cecile Bouscant.
10. Dalmatica, Susan Bliss.
11. True Charm, Delight.
12. Japanese Irises, anenomes, cardinal flower and myosotis—a few rues (Thalictrum).

R1. Rose Jacotte; R2 Gardenia; R3 Shower of Gold; R4 Emily Gray each planted with Clematis Jackmanni near at hand.
Crevice plants; Aubrietia, Muhlenbeckia, Paronychia, Linaria alpina.

In the above list the blue irises are ranged to one side, the pinks to the other and in the selection of shrubs succession of fruit and flower, fall color and form interests have been included. The asters and roses should be trained down the bank in late June to early August to bring down the color. Roses thus led among perennials make weeding, etc, difficult, but give beautiful succession of bloom.

Key for Planting well to the Northward of New York.

Other Material.

A. Crataegus Arnoldiana.
B. Taxus capitata.
C. Forsythia intermedia.
D. Juniperus horizontalis.
E. Picea Albertiana.
F. Taxus cuspidata.
G. Hydrangea arborescens Fl. pl.
H. Hydrangea arborescens Fl. pl.
J. Asters as before.
K. Lilium tigrinum and Monarda Cambridge Scarlet.
L. Gladiolus and Verbena (annual).

Irises.

1. Sherwin Wright.
2. Mixed planting as before.
3. Hemerocallis Dumorteiri and Perry's Blue.
4. Shekinah.
5. Alcazar, Ambassadeur.
6. Grace Sturtevant, Mrs. Valerie West.
7. Marsh Marigold, Flamenschwert, Maori Princess, Iris King.
8. Chartier.
9. Prosper Laugier, Glowing Embers.
10. Sindjkha, Afterglow.
11. Gold Imperial.
12. Japanese Irises, myosotis, Troilius, and Thalictrum (late flowering).

R1. Rosa Arnoldiana; R2 Rosa Lady Duncan; R3 Rosa Max Graf; R4 Rosa rugosa repens alba with Clematis Jackmanni.
Crevice Plants. Vaccinium vitis-idea; Arenaria balearica; Thymus serpyllum; Potentilla tridentata, Chiogenes.

Key for Planting South of Washington, D. C.

Other Material.

A. Gordonia.
B. Cupressus sempervirens.
C. Lagerstroemia indica.
D. Cotoneaster adpressa.
E. Lavandula vera.
F. Nandina domestica.
G. Abelia grandiflora.
H. Cytisus canariensis.
J. Scattered Jasminum and lilies in var.
K. Alstroemerias.
L. Tritonias.

Irises.

1. Valencia.
2. As before with Juno irises, alata, histrio, etc., added.
3. Souv. de Loetitia Michaud.
4. William Mohr.
5. Argentina, Micheline Charraire.
6. Cameo, May Morn.
7. Opera, Karen, and Carmelo, Dolores.
8. Flambeau, Garden White.
9. Asia, Day Dream.
10. Ishtar, Mme. Cheri.
11. Grisette, Reverie.
12. Japanese Irises, Erianthus, myosotis, Primula japonica.

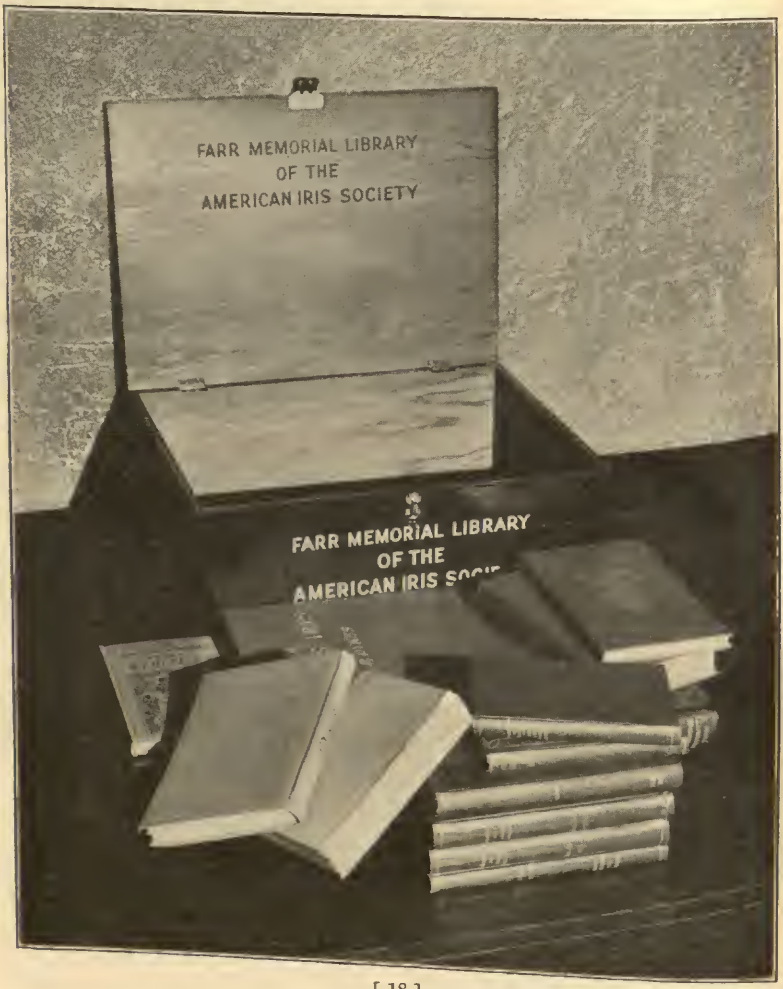
R1. Rosa Cherokee; R2 William Allen Richardson; R3 Bignonia grandiflora; R4 Rosa Climbing Mrs. Aaron Ward.
Crevice plants; Aubrietia, Muhlenbeckia, Paronychia, Linaria alpina.

Even though such plans do not fit your needs in their entirety it is well to remember that they may introduce you to new and worthy shrubs or to color combinations among the irises alone and that such combinations may be carried out with a quite different lot of varieties. Alcazar with the orange of Hemerocallis peering through is always lovely and gains an added brilliance or we may like the tone contrasts of Tom-tit and Wedgewood Valencia and Flambeau or the color contrasts of Tom-tit and Aphrodite or Valencia and Mme. Cheri. The interplay of iris colorations are a fascinating field of experimentation.

THE FARR MEMORIAL

RICHARDSON WRIGHT
Chairman of the Farr Memorial Committee

In February, 1928, the Directors of the American Iris Society decided that the Society's memorial to the late Bertrand H. Farr should take the form of one or more traveling libraries, containing



a selection of the best books and pamphlets on Iris. These libraries were designed for the use of organizations and individuals in all parts of the country.

Subscriptions to this Farr Memorial Fund were liberally contributed by members of the Society and others whose gardens have been made more lovely by the presence in them of Iris created by Mr. Farr. At the present writing (late November) the fund is close to $900, and several generous members are just awaiting this report before they follow the impulse to make the sum a round thousand dollars.

The necessary books and pamphlets have been purchased and the boxes for shipping the libraries built, as will be seen in the accompanying illustration. The residue of the fund will be held in a Special Interest Account, the accruing interest being used for additions to the libraries and their general upkeep. This Farr Memorial, thanks to the generosity of our members and friends, will be self-contained and self-supporting.

The Books in the Library

The Farr Memorial Library consists of a strong shipping box in which are neatly packed the following:

The Genus Iris—W. R. Dykes.
A Handbook of Garden Irises—W. R. Dykes.
Irises—W. R. Dykes.
Bulbous Irises—Sir Michael Foster.
A Book of the Iris—R. I. Lynch.
Les Iris dans les Jardins—Correvon et Masse.
The Iris—John C. Wister.
Iris In The Little Garden—Ella Porter McKinney.
Irises—F. F. Rockwell.
The Iris—Walter Stager.
Addisonia, December 1924 and March 1927.
Bearded Iris and A Study of the Pogoniris Varieties—A. B. Sand.
Bulletins of the American Iris Society—Nos. 1 to 29.
Bulletins of The Iris Society (England), Nos. 1–5.
Garden Irises—B. Y. Morrison—Farmer's Bulletin 1406.
1 package of Membership Applications for the American Iris Society.

While these volumes do not exhaust all the available literature on the Iris, they are the books necessary to that thorough working knowledge which is desirable for intelligent gardeners and garden clubs. They have been so selected as to meet the needs of the beginner, the sophisticated Iris devotee and the botanist alike. The Committee suggests that the volumes be classified in interest as follows:

For the Veriest Iris Beginner--

American Iris Society Bulletins Nos. 10, 11 and 28.
The Iris—John C. Wister.
Irises—W. R. Dykes.
Irises—F. F. Rockwell.
Iris In The Little Garden—Ella Porter McKinney.

For the Iris Devotee and the Botanically Inclined—

The Genus Iris—W. R. Dykes.
Handbook of Garden Iris—W. R. Dykes.
A Book of the Iris—R. I. Lynch.
Addisonia.
Bulbous Iris—Sir Michael Foster.
Bearded Iris and Pogoniris Varieties—A. B. Sand.

How to Obtain the Farr Library

For the convenience of distribution the Committee has divided the country into three sections, furnishing one complete traveling library to each.

(1) The Atlantic Seaboard and west to the Alleghenies. The library for this section will be deposited with the Horticultural Society of New York and be distributed from its offices. Clubs and members desiring use of this library can make application for it to Mrs. Elizabeth Peterson, Horticultural Society of New York, 598 Madison Avenue, New York City.

(2) The Middle States—from the Alleghenies to the Rockies. The library for this section will be deposited with the Missouri Botanical Garden. Application for its use should be sent to Miss Katherine H. Leigh, Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, Missouri.

(3) The Pacific Coast library is in charge of Sydney B. Mitchell, School of Librarianship, the University of California, Berkeley, Calif., and individuals or clubs in this district desiring to use it should make application to Mr. Mitchell.

The procedure for obtaining this library will be as follows:

(1) Written application for the use of the library is sent to the sectional custodian. The privileges will be extended in the order the applications are received.

(2) The box containing the library is then sent by express to the officer representing the club. It will be necessary for the club to pay express charges both ways—both from and to the custodian. Beyond this expense for expressage the use of the library is without charge.

(3) When the box is shipped the custodian will mail to the officer the key to the lock. This is to be returned to the custodian

when the box is returned. Heavy linen envelopes will be provided for this purpose.

(4) The allotted time having expired, the officer of the club will check up the contents of the box with the list that is attached to the inside lid, lock it, express the box to the sectional custodian and mail him the key.

Note: Since there is a heavy demand for the use of these libraries, it will be necessary to restrict the time they may be held by a club to one month. For the present the use of these libraries can be extended only to clubs.

How to Use the Library

In addition to the suggestion of which books will interest the beginner and which the sophisticated devotee and botanist, the Committee suggests that the societies using these libraries will make an event of their arrival: devote one meeting to the discussion of Irises. This might profitably be done after the members have had an opportunity to read the books.

It is suggested that garden clubs contemplating the use of the Farr Memorial Library also avail themselves of the lantern slides of the American Iris Society for their Iris meeting. These slides are a comprehensive collection which is being constantly augmented. Application for them should be sent to Samuel L. Earle, 1223 Mazuma Ave., Birmingham, Ala. The charge for their use is $10, the recipient club paying the expressage.

It is also hoped that on this occasion some member may explain to the club what the American Iris Society is doing for its members and for the furtherance of Iris culture in America. These facts will be found on the membership cards contained in each library and on page 3 of the Bulletin No. 26.

It would also be considered a pleasant courtesy if the secretary of each garden club enjoying the benefits and privileges of the Farr Memorial Library should send a list of the names and addresses of its members to our Secretary, J. B. Wallace, 129 Church Street, New Haven, Conn.

In offering this valuable library of Iris lore to American Gardeners, the American Iris Society feels that in a unique way it is carrying on the aspirations of him in whose memory it has been established. "Iris everywhere and better Iris every year" was the ideal of Bertrand H. Farr. May it find abundant accomplishment in our gardens.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE FARR MEMORIAL FUND

Mrs. Horatio G. Lloyd, J. B. Wallace, Jr., Mrs. W. H. Peckham, Jacob Sass, Mrs. Harry T. Little, Robert Wayman, Ralph G. Van Name, W. F. Boyer, Thomas B. Barlow, Lida M. Robbins, Mrs. B. A. Jackson, John C. Wister, Frances M. Washburn, Edith W. Scott, Mary V. Hyde, Mrs. C. R. S. Leckie, Eliz. R. Butterworth, Amy Peabody, Nancy Jenison, Geo. W. Peyton, Otto Ruess, Farr Nursery Co., Mrs. John A. Ferguson, E. B. Williamson, Mark O'Dea, Karl K. Lorenz, Emile Gansler, Jessie T. Clark, F. A. Shailer, Mrs. M. H. Ormsbee, Mabel C. Tobie, George R. Goodwin, Shiela M. Case, Paul L. Battey, Daisy Hume, Ella W. Pratt, Mary C. Nore, Frank Brunton, W. McL. Ayres, James Boyd, Carl Salbach, E. S. Jenckes, Frances R. Ives, Jos. W. Essick, Walter S. Hearne, Katherine L. Rice, Mrs. Francis King, Mary McC. Harper, Mrs. D. D. Sabin, Mrs. Walter L. Brewster, Mabel R. Isenberg, H. F. Dupont, Britta M. Williams, James River Garden Club, Beatrix Farrand, Edith T. Bodley, Mrs. Nevada S. Hitchcock, Mrs. C. S. McKinney, Lorraine Cerf, Mrs. G. S. Dunham, S. W. Massie, Carrick S. Lewis, Frances S. Cleveland, G. J. Rockland, Mrs. Jenette Dean, Gertrude R. McComas, Harriet F. Holmes, Theodore Swan, George Churcher, Annie S. Richardson, Mrs. Gross Scruggs, Tom Metcalfe, Lula E. English, Will McClelland, Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Effie L. Garverich, Elizabeth Bellinger, Stewart Johnston, Mrs. Wm. R. Mercer, Mrs. Maurice Hooper, Sophie B. Steel, George M. Reed, Mr. Perry James, F. B. Mead, Mrs. H. L. McCall, Mary Orth Cumbler, Mrs. H. B. Wright, Nelly M. Houston, Mary C. Bissell, Harry A. Norton, Rosa C. Hamilton, F. A. Beardsley, J. C. Bull, Fordyce B. Rogers, George M. Reed, Columbus Iris Society, H. P. Simpson, Joseph A. Clune, Sydney B. Mitchell, Elizabeth N. Nesmith, Richardson Wright.

CHECK LIST

Subscription List Open

The long promised Complete Check List is ready for publication and is to be published *not* as a regular Bulletin of the Society but by subscription for those particularly interested in the historical development of Irises and their nomenclature. In contradistinction to the earlier Check Lists (published as reprints from Standardized Plant Names) the new issue will contain a full list of all species and varieties of Irises known in gardens or mentioned in publications with names of originators and introducers, dates, and references to published descriptions. The inclusion of 1928 Symposium ratings and keys to color and type mark a new departure for a Check List. We hope also to include short bibliographical notes on originators and introducers.

The book will be issued in a permanent form and members interested in subscribing should communicate with Mrs. E. A. S. Peckham to whom is due the final compilation of an immense volume of detailed information. With the published Check List and a much larger mimeographed list compiled by Mr. Wister and myself as bases Mrs. Peckham has not only checked the previous entries but added much by consultation with Dr. Small, Dr. Barnhart, Mrs. Hires, and Mr. Wister and her own research. The result will embody a permanent record of all Irises known previous to December 31st, 1928.

1928 REPORTS

President's Report for the Year Ending December 31, 1928

It seems hard to believe that this, our ninth year, has sped by so rapidly. The reports of our various Committees as published in the Bulletins have kept our members so well informed that there remains little new to be put in this report. I am happy, however, to report again a healthy growth of our membership and I want to take this opportunity to thank our members who have helped us by interesting their friends in the Society. Our Regional Vice President, Mr. F. X. Schreiner, holds the record for bringing us the most new members, so special congratulations are due him.

The better organization which I commented upon a year ago has shown results in the bettered service to our members, and many letters received by the officers testify to the fact that this is appreciated.

The happiest news of the year has been the establishment of the Farr Memorial Traveling Library. There were many different suggestions as to what might be the most fitting memorial to the man to whom more than to any other is due the present popularity of the Iris in this country, but I feel sure that nothing could have appealed to Mr. Farr more than such a library which will bring to the smallest community an opportunity to study Iris. The thanks of the Society are due Mr. Wright for the able way he has planned the details of the project and has so promptly made the project a reality.

As long ago as the organization meeting some one suggested that one test garden would not be sufficient for a society such as ours; that what we needed were gardens on each coast connected by others in the different climates of the middle of the continent. This dream has now at last become a reality with the establishment of the new California Botanic Garden at Sawtelle. It takes some years to get a good Iris collection together, and to determine the most useful work a particular garden can do and to get that work successfully under way.

Our research work has continued. Some thousands of seedlings from the 1927 breeding work are now growing at the New

York Botanic Garden and some of these should bloom in 1929. At Brooklyn the work with Japanese Iris has continued and Dr. Reed published a preliminary classification in the July BULLETIN. The photographs of the Iris Borer, taken by Mr. Donald Ries as part of his studies of this insect, were exhibited at the annual meeting and at a number of Iris shows.

The Symposium which was published in July has excited favorable comment from the gardening press as well as from our members. There can be no doubt that it fills a long felt want. An even greater task, the new Check List has been under way for more than a year. Our members are anxious to receive this, but owing to its size it may prove too great a burden on the finances of the society and may therefore have to be published by private subscription. Our members are also anxious to receive the new Classification on which much work has been done; this, like the Symposium and Check List, is a big task for our small resources; like them it is being prepared in the spare time of a few of our most enthusiastic workers and, alas, the modern world keeps us all so busy that none of us have much spare time. So the work must go slowly.

The annual meeting at Freeport brought together members from more widely separated states than any previous meeting. We all enjoyed the splendid show, the fine gardens which were so graciously opened for us, and I wish again to express the thanks of the Society to our hospitable Freeport friends. These gatherings are becoming more and more enjoyable as our members get to know each other better.

Each year continues to see the introduction of many fine new Irises. They come in such quantities that they are confusing. We see them in shows, in private collections, in test gardens and in nurseries. The new Symposium helps us appraise some of them, but many of them are not yet well enough distributed to be voted on. Those who try these new varieties can help the other members of the society by sending in comments for publication.

If we can continue our steady progress in establishing Test and Display Gardens we shall soon be making a profound impression on American gardening. Too long has the Iris been neglected by the general gardener. We have spread Iris enthusiasm and Iris knowledge to our members. Let us now encourage all gardeners in the cultivation of our favorite flower.

JOHN C. WISTER

REPORTS OF THE REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS

New England

The American Iris Society has had a busy and rather active season in New England. There have been at least five Iris Shows in cooperation with the American Iris Society. New Haven, Connecticut, held its show on the 13th of June, which I could not attend but I understand from President Wister that it was well attended and a good exhibition.

June 14th: Providence County Garden Clubs, of Providence, R. I., in cooperation with the American Iris Society, held an Iris Show at which a great deal of interest and enthusiasm was shown.

June 15th: An Iris Field Day was held at Forest Park, Springfield, Massachusetts. The Springfield Park Department, the Springfield Garden Club and the American Iris Society cooperated. This Field Day has seemed to bring to life the Iris spirit in surrounding towns as well as in Springfield.

June 16th and 17th: The American Iris Society and Massachusetts Horticultural Society cooperated in a two-day Iris Exhibition at Horticultural Hall, Boston, Massachusetts. There was a good attendance. This was the first Boston American Iris Society Show in a good many years, and we look forward to a much larger and better exhibition next year with many more displays.

June 18th: The Worcester Garden Club, of Worcester, Massachusetts, held a Flower Show, the especial feature being Irises.

June 20th: The Lowell Garden Club, Lowell, Massachusetts, held its annual flower show in cooperation with the American Iris Society. A large attendance and much enthusiasm was shown.

On June 12th there was an American Iris Society Pilgrimage starting from Boston and going first to the gardens of Mr. and Mrs. Eric Greene, Old Town, North Attleboro, Massachusetts. Mr. and Mrs. Greene have a delightful home, spacious grounds and an interesting collection of Irises artistically arranged. The garden of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Kenyon, of Pawtucket, Rhode Island, also showed quite an extensive collection of both new and old varieties. We then went to the garden of Professor John E. Hill, of Providence, Rhode Island, where in a sheltered, very individual garden, we saw many of the best Irises including several of Professor Hill's seedlings. It was indeed a pleasure to be shown about by Professor Hill, and see with what ease he grew many of the semi-hardy kind.

Here ended the official American Iris Society Pilgrimage, although many of us accepted the kind invitation of the Misses Lawton to have tea with them at their large ancestral home, which proved a perfect ending for a delightful day.

New exhibition gardens have been established at the Normal School, Keene, New Hampshire—100 varieties; Massachusetts State Agricultural College, Amherst, about 100 varieties; Haverhill Park Department. The park grounds are to be especially landscaped in the spring with the idea of placing the Iris Exhibition Garden in the most fitting portion of the grounds—about 125 varieties. Harvard Botanic Garden, Cambridge, Mass.; affiliated February

23, 1927, but nothing especial has been done in the way of new Irises until this summer and fall—about four hundred different bearded Irises of only the better kinds. University of New Hampshire, affiliated July 16, 1927, about ninety new kinds this year.

Arrangements are being made to establish Exhibition Gardens this coming year at Maine, Vermont, Connecticut and possibly Rhode Island State Colleges. Such colleges seem especially fitting places for Iris plantings.

I have been well pleased with the general interest shown in the different Iris activities, and as a consequence the Iris Society membership has been greatly increased in New England during the past year.

There are reports from nurserymen and Iris growers of the Iris borer, but in my own garden I have been able practically to eliminate it by burning over the beds and clumps of Irises in the spring as Mrs. McKinney suggests. The Iris rot has been rather bad in some places but in almost every case that I have followed up I have found it usually came from too deep planting, overgrown clumps, and improperly drained beds. If we can persuade people that proper drainage is something that Irises require and that they should not allow water to stand on them at any season of the year I think we shall have made quite a step forward.

There has seemed to be a great deal of complaint this year of the leaves on Irises turning brown and dying back. I have thought it must be on account of the wet season. We have also had a moss-like formation on the top of Iris beds. Application of agricultural lime has helped to lessen it, but does not entirely cure it. Can anyone give us a better remedy?

One of our members found in a few Iris rhizomes small grub-like worms. They seemed to hollow out the rhizome and made a powdery pulp of the interior. I took some of these to Mr. Stephen Hamblin, of Harvard Botanic Garden, for identification, and he in turn sent them to Cornell University and I am quoting Mr. Ries' reply.

"The Iris rhizomes that you sent are infested with *Eumeris strigatus*. This is one of the bulb flies that have been causing so much trouble to Narcissus bulbs these past few years. Last year and this, in a number of localities, they have been prevalent in Iris. In some cases this insect seems to follow Soft Rot while in others the Rot comes in after the insect.

"From life history work done last year: the eggs are laid either in the fall or the spring near the base of the plants; the young maggots work their way into the roots and in many cases hollow them out to a certain extent, although not so much of course as the Iris Borer. I have never known them to be fatal to the plant and as far as I know there is no control for them in Iris, although several methods for controlling them in Narcissus are recommended.

DONALD T. RIES"

I was especially pleased with the willingness of those whom I had asked to give of their stock of Irises to our New England Exhibition Gardens. It shows the right spirit and assures us of success in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

ELIZABETH NOBLE NESMITH,
Regional Vice-President.

Omaha, Nebraska

1. The dates for the spring flower show at Omaha this year proved to be too late to exhibit many Iris blooms. Late killing frosts were also responsible for the poor showing. However, at this writing, the Omaha Chamber of Commerce wishes to sponsor a large and extensive flower show with the cooperation of the Garden Club of Omaha, and the half dozen garden clubs in Omaha and environs, and also to include sections for the school children. It remains only to be seen how many will step out in front when the call for workers is made.

2. It is my conviction that no other one factor has so great an influence in "advertising" the Iris and causing the desire to grow them, as a good Iris show, and to make a real show, I believe it takes the growers to fill the show-room, not only with the latest and best originations, but they are generally in a position and are willing to furnish hundreds or thousands of blooms to dress up the show-room and blooms of good rating and quality.

3. Interest in Iris growing is on the increase in this locality, due, in a large measure, to the efforts of the Sass Brothers in bringing out varieties different from those already on the market, and, of course, their dissemination in this locality adjacent to their gardens. Particularly is this true on account of their showing large numbers of named varieties at the Iris shows held the past few years in the Middle West, thereby educating the public that there were other and better Iris than the kinds that used to be grown in long rows and hedges; such as Flavescens, Florentina, and Honorabilis.

4. Next to color, the scent of flowers has an appeal to almost everybody, and for this reason, as well as for its charm as a pure, deep, frilled, lavender self, I wish to give first place to Odoratissima—that almost "ancient" variety which somehow or other was given the very low rating of 77, both for exhibition and garden. I would rate this at least 90 or better, as it has 36- to 40-inch stalks, is very floriferous, and while I can see it is short-branched, yet the flowers are carried on the stalk in very fine form. The standards are ruffled; it has glaucous foliage and is a true pallida. When anywhere near my clumps of this, even in the dark, I get that sweet, fruity, locust-like odor. Can anyone name a sweeter one?

5. I asked the Sass Brothers about controlling rust spots on Iris leaves, which seem to be worse in damp weather, at least in this locality, and from my observation, seems to be more prevalent on some varieties than others, particularly those with Amas blood. They report that spraying with lime-sulphur (which had been recommended) seemed to have no effect whatever, even though used two and three times a week. They seemed to think a better plan is to cut the foliage, not in the fall, but in the spring, perhaps in March. It is argued that this should also get the eggs of the Iris-borer moth. It would be interesting to learn if this is a remedy or a way of controlling these two bad features of Iris growing. The Sass Brothers also claim that Iris blooms in the pinks and blends show better by artificial light, as this seems to eliminate the purple cast in the flowers.

HOWARD R. JUDSON

REPORTS OF TEST GARDENS

Cornell Iris Gardens

The present worker took over a collection of some eight hundred varieties from Mr. A. W. W. Sand whose admirable work in Cornell Bulletin 131 and Cornell Memoir 100 is known to all. Since that time (1927), we have made a very definite effort to increase and modernize our collection.

A list of 35,000 nurseries has been worked over and their sales lists procured. From these catalogues, card indices have been made of all varieties listed. The information has been summarized in "want lists" which have been distributed to all nurseries offering Iris for sale. Each list was accompanied by an invitation to the grower to place material at our disposal for study.

Through the untiring cooperation of Mrs. E. A. S. Peckham, chairman of the Test Garden Committee, American Iris Society, who has forwarded many varieties from the New York collection and through the cooperation of the nurseries our collection has been vastly increased and now includes over 95 per cent. of the varieties in trade.

Definite records are maintained of each variety received. These include the name of the variety donated, the name of the donor, the date of donation, the plot number, and subsequent plot numbers in case of replanting.

As soon as possible the variety is checked with all the information available from catalogues, literature, and correspondence. If the variety checks with this information it is accepted as correct and descriptive notes are made of it. Descriptive notes are summarized in the form of color, height and season classifications, notes are also made of general growth and garden value. To date no ratings have been made.

In the process of checking description and classification, synonyms are noted and the varieties brought into groups for detailed comparison. Finally, a permanent planting is made and sulplus stock disposed of.

Under present arrangements if restrictions are placed upon varieties by donors such restrictions are honored. If no restrictions are made surplus stock is distributed to approved demonstration gardens of the Society. Any remaining surplus is destroyed; none is available for commercial purposes.

The present system keeps the collection up to date, at least with reference to well-known sorts. It provides a living herbarium for comparative and record purposes. Photographs and lantern slides are made for teaching and lecture work. The garden provides a demonstration planting which is visited by about 3,000 persons per year not including university students, many of whom make special field trips in the course of their studies to observe varieties for garden and landscape planting. Finally, the collection furnishes material for special studies on problems relative to Iris culture such as the investigation now in progress on the Iris borer.

A report is made each year of the studies in progress and the results obtained. Portions of this report are reserved for future publication by the university as bulletins or memoirs.

The whole-hearted cooperation which we have received from Iris growers is most encouraging and we trust that the present plan of operation will advance the general interest in Iris throughout the country and also aid in the solution of general problems in Iris culture.

A survey was made of the Iris varieties listed by catalog in 1928. The work was completed August 1. The list contains some 2,150 names, of this number some 475 are still lacking from our present collection. The majority of the varieties which we require are obtainable from but one or two sources. A special letter has been forwarded to the growers concerned requesting them to forward the varieties if possible.

The University wishes to thank those who have so generously placed varieties at our disposal for study. A list of the donors for the season 1928 to date follows:

Andorra Nurseries, Chestnut Hill, Pa., Mr. J. K. Alexander, East Bridgewater, Mass., George Aikin, Putney, Vermont, Atlee Burpee Co., Philadelphia, Pa., Barnes Bros., Yalesville, Conn., Mr. S. Berry, Redlands, Calif., Joseph Breck, Lexington, Mass., John Lewis Childs, Flowerfield, N. Y., Henry T. Coe, Putney, Vermont, Conrad Wagner Bulb Co., Watsonville, Calif., Cottage Gardens, Lansing, Mich., Farr Nursery Co., Weiser Park, Pa., Forest Park, Springfield, Mass., Mr. T. M. Fendall, Leesburg, Va., G. H. Graham, Lincoln, Neb., Gray & Cole, Ward Hill, Mass., Charlotte Haines, Rockford, Ill., Indian Spring Farms, Baldwinsville, N. Y., Iowa Seed Co., Des Moines, Iowa, Frank Josifco, Madison, Conn., Kelley Plant Gardens, Spokane, Wash., Longfield Iris Gardens, Bluffton, Ind., Lovett's Nursery, Little Silver, N. J., Meadow Mountain Bulb Farm, Granite Falls, Wash., Naperville Nurseries, Naperville, Ill., New York Botanical Gardens, Bronx, New York, Novato Nurseries, Novato, Calif., Mrs. E. A. S. Peckham, New Rochelle, N. Y., Pfeiffer Nursery, Winona, Minn., Prairie Gardens, McPherson, Kansas, F. M. Pratt, Orwell, Ohio, Prudential Nursery Co., Kalamazoo, Mich., Rosedale Nurseries, Tarrytown, N. Y., Carl Salbach, Berkeley, Calif., Mr. H. P. Sass, Washington, Neb., W. A. Sisson, Rosedale, Wis., Southerland Landscape Service, Boulder, Colo., State Nursery & Seed Co., Helena, Mont., Stone Crest Gardens, Eau Claire, Wis., Storrs & Harrison, Painesville, Ohio, Strand's Nursery, Taylor's Falls, Minn., Miss Grace Sturtevant, Wellesley Farms, Mass., Sunset Garden, South Bellingham, Wash., Harry Totten, Hornell, N. Y., Twin Larches Nursery, West Chester, Pa., Miss T. Van Name, New Haven, Conn., Vaughan Seed Store, Chicago, Ill., Arthur L. Watson, Grand Rapids, Mich., Robert Wayman, Bayside, Long Island, N. Y., Weed Landscape Nursery, Beaverton, Oregon, Weller Nurseries, Holland, Mich., White & Johnstone, Wakefield, Mass., Gilbert H. Wild & Son, Sarcoxie, Mo., John C. Wister, Germantown, Pa.

At the suggestion of Mrs. Peckham, Chairman of the Test Gardens Committee, certain varieties have been distributed to other Test Gardens. Such varieties were taken from the plantings reported on by Mr. A. W. W. Sand in Cornell Bulletin No. 112 and Memoir No. 100, copies of which are still available for distribution free of charge.

Distributed in 1928 to: Morton Arboretum, Lisle, Ill., 237 varieties; Elizabeth Gardens, Hartford, Conn., 455 varieties; Forest Park, Springfield, Mass., 225 varieties; Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, Canada, 242 varieties.

Among the activities at the garden during the season may be noted a visit by Mrs. J. Edgar Hires. The matter of a color classification was discussed and we are indebted to Mrs. Hires for a copy of the detail color classification which she has in hand and which will be of great assistance in our studies. We are also pleased to report a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Sturtevant, whose suggestions in comparing certain varieties was greatly appreciated. Colonel and Jesse Nicholls are, of course, frequent visitors and we wish to acknowledge the many valuable suggestions which they make from time to time.

The studies conducted this season were extended to include a checking of our varieties prior to replanting. The final series of notes was made for a preliminary study on the blooming date of Iris varieties. It is hoped that the data may be summarized in the near future.

ALFRED M. S. PRIDHAM

N. Y. Botanical Garden

The Alphabetical Garden has been all divided and replanted, the surplus plants having been distributed to the Test Gardens at Ames, Cornell, Minnesota, Missouri, Morton, and Saskatchewan and to Display Gardens at Cambridge, McPherson, Kansas; New Haven, and Redding, Connecticut, Staten Island; Springfield, Mass., and Trenton, New Jersey. There were many hundreds, indeed thousands, of these plants and the dividing, labelling, and packing was no mean job. Lists of correct names with originators and dates conforming with the new Check List now in course of preparation, were sent to each place and it is hoped that in this way labels will give real information to the public and that the files of those in charge of the collections will be brought up to date.

That portion of the Trial Garden which had had its final judging was dug and the plants returned to the originators or distributed as instructed. Ground set aside for Dr. Stout's seedlings is about filled, hundreds of them being set out and they seem to be growing satisfactorily. Many plants of species, purchased by the A. I. S., are growing here also. The seedlings from Mr. Moore's crosses bloomed, were checked, poor ones discarded, and a few retained for further hydridizing.

In several of the beds in the Color Planting where we had lost a great many plants through disease and winter-killing Dr. Bernard O. Dodge has started a test using some of the new fungicides and we are awaiting the results next spring with a good deal of hope and curiosity. He has also become interested in the health of the Irises in the Trial Garden so we feel there is a better chance for a good showing among the seedlings and this should encourage raisers to send in their plants for trial. If they do so they should be careful to mark the parcels "Seedlings for Trial" for they will then be planted at once in the proper place.

The collections are fairly well supplied with old varieties but sadly lacking in the newer things. We have had considerable in the way of donations this year and are very grateful but our hands are always out asking for more! As many people visit these collections during the season, which is a long one, we feel that we must make them as complete and fine as possible. A splendid selection of Japanese varieties, two hundred and fifty plants in fifty varieties, has been given us by J. L. Childs, Inc., of Flowerfield, Long Island, and has

Iris Beds at Brooklyn Botanic Garden

Iris Beds at Brooklyn Botanic Garden

been planted in three good-sized beds. We still need plants of the newer Sibiricas for the Beardless garden. What we have were moved to beds better suited to their survival and vigorous growth. Donors were: Edgar Anderson, W. A. Anderson, Jr., Dr. W. McL. Ayres, J. H. Bratt, John Lewis Childs Inc., L. J. Egelberg, Farr Nursery Co., Thos. M. Fendall, Miss Louise Given, Mrs. Louise K. Clabough, Gray & Cole, J. H. Grinter, Mrs. A. B. Hamilton, A. A. Heller, A. M. Hudelson, Dr. Nancy Jenison, Talbot D. Jones, E. G. Lapham, Longfield Iris Farm, Bruce C. Maples, A. C. Moore, Mrs. E. J. O'Connor, Aug. J. Pauls, Mrs. W. H. Peckham, Mrs. W. A. Plecker, C. A. Rayval, Mrs. Read, Dr. P. A. Rydberg, Mrs. Arthur H. Scott, Mrs. Eleanor Sherewood, J. Marion Shull, W. N. Suksdorf, Miss Sara Toedt, University of Tennessee, Robert Wayman, Homer Weed, Dr. E. T. Wherry, J. C. Wister, Brother Wolf.

Beardless Iris Test Garden at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden

Japanese Iris (*Iris kaempferi*).—In the fall of 1927 most of the varieties of Japanese Iris were divided and transplanted to new beds. The size of the divisions varied considerably, but in most cases they were similar to those ordinarily furnished by a nurseryman. The plants came through the winter in good condition and most of them produced at least one flowering stalk during the season. The height of the flower stalks and the size of the flowers were, however, below normal. In some cases small established clumps were moved without further division, and these usually produced several flowering stalks with flowers of the usual size. An experiment was made in which a few varieties were divided to a single rhizome and transplanted as late as early November. Practically all of these survived and some sent up flower stalks.

The first flowers were observed June twenty-fourth on unnamed single white seedlings growing in the brook. On June twenty-eighth the first named varieties—Dominator and Pyramid—flowered in the field. From that time until early August there was continuous bloom on most of the varieties. Violet Beauty was in blossom as late as August fourteenth, Nausicaa August twentieth and Iphigenie opened its last flower on August twenty-first.

The varieties obtained from Vilmorin-Andrieux & Cie in the winter of 1926 were in excellent condition. A few plants had been reset without dividing, but all the plants produced several well-developed flower stems with large blooms. All of these varieties were divided and reset during the past September.

Several valuable additions to the Japanese Iris collections were made. Dr. Harris Kennedy brought to us seventeen unnamed plants from his Japanese Iris garden at Readville, Mass. The Wayside Gardens furnished their own named varieties as well as a few others. The Weller Nurseries Co. sent us fifteen named varieties from their collection.

A very important addition was the varieties obtained from Mr. Roy Hart, East Walden, New York. His plants originally came from Japan, having been obtained from the Sakata Nursery Company in 1915. Unfortunately, the varieties and names had been completely dissociated. We spent some time studying his plants and, by comparing the original descriptions, we were able to correctly identify several of the varieties. On account of lack of time it was not possible to identify all of them. Having the varieties in our own

collection, we may be able to complete the identification of practically all of the plants in Mr. Hart's possession. His collection has proved to be one of the best sources for a wide range of varieties originally introduced from Japan.

Siberian and Miscellaneous Beardless Iris.—The varieties of the Siberian group and the various species gave excellent bloom during the past season. These plants were all well established, having been transplanted in the fall of 1926. Consequently, we had good-sized clumps which produced abundant flowers. A large number of additions to the varieties have been made.

Most of the species of Beardless Iris bloomed satisfactorily during the past season. A large number of seedlings are growing and some of these flowered.

The plants suffered from the usual Iris maladies, the most serious losses being among the Japanese varieties. Several plants died during the blooming season or soon thereafter. The same general types of diseases were observed as reported upon last year. In addition, the maggots or larvae of the fly *Chaetopsis fulvifrons* was found associated with many of the dying plants. One of our most important problems in connection with the Beardless Iris is that of working out the true story of the various maladies.

As is well known, the winter of 1927–1928 was unusually severe on plants, the repeated freezing and thawing resulting in heaving. So far as I was able to observe, however, we sustained no loss on account of these unfavorable winter conditions. Many of our plants had to be pushed back into the ground in the spring, but they took hold and survived. Our losses came later in the season and did not seem to be associated at all with the previous winter conditions.

Some of our readers may be more impressed with numbers than with anything else, and may wish to know the total number of varieties and species in the Beardless Iris collection. There are three hundred and eleven names represented among the Japanese varieties. We have not as yet fully determined how many of these are similar. Progress, however, has been made in this direction, and a large proportion of the plants have been correctly identified. Most of the varieties available from Europe and America are now in the collection. We lack, however, many varieties originally imported from Japan. Apparently it is no longer possible to secure these from American nurserymen who imported them from Japan several years ago. The interesting question comes up as to what has become of the large numbers of named varieties originally brought into this country. It is also interesting to note the rapid changes which take place in the lists of Japanese Iris offered by our nurserymen.

We have forty-nine named varieties of the true Siberian Iris in our collection. There are also a number of unnamed seedlings. We also have approximately fifty species of Beardless Iris. Again, there are a number of plants under other names, but they are probably merely varieties of the recognized species.

Some additional watercolor drawings were made by Miss Louise B. Mansfield, Miss Purdy not being able to do the work this past year.

In addition to the contribution from the Society, Mr. William J. Matheson, Mr. H. S. Smith and Mrs. Wheeler H. Peckham contributed to the financial support of the project.

Iris Test Garden, Missouri Botanical Garden, 1928

The contributions of plants were as follows:

JAPANESE IRIS

Mrs. Frances E. Cleveland, Eatontown, N. J.	4 varieties
Roy Hart, East Walden, N. Y.	45 "
Dr. Harris Kennedy, Readville, Mass.	17 "
Mrs. Ella Porter McKinney, Madison, N. J.	1 variety
*Perry's Hardy Plant Farm, England	1 "
*R. Wallace & Co., Ltd., England	19 varieties
The Wayside Gardens Co., Mentor, Ohio	9 "
Weller Nurseries Co., Inc., Holland, Mich.	15 "

SIBERIAN AND MISCELLANEOUS BEARDLESS IRIS

Miss Laura M. Bragg, Director, The Charleston Museum, Charleston, S. C.	1 variety
Dr. Fred N. Briggs, Berkeley, Cal.	5 varieties
Frank W. Campbell, Detroit, Mich.	8 "
Mrs. Frances E. Cleveland, Eatontown, N. J.	5 "
J. L. Coker, Hartsville, S. C.	1 variety
Miss Susan T. Homans, Flushing, N. Y.	6 varieties
Miss Susan C. Lovering, Wilmington, N. C.	1 variety
Mrs. Ella Porter McKinney, Madison, N. J.	1 "
Dr. E. B. Mains, Lafayette, Ind.	2 varieties
Franklin B. Mead, Fort Wayne, Ind.	3 "
*Perry's Hardy Plant Farm, England	25 "
Miss Isabella Preston, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, Canada	11 "
A. C. Snoddy, Cincinnati, Ohio	1 variety
*R. Wallace & Co., Ltd., England	7 varieties
Robert Wayman, Bayside, Long Island	2 "

* Purchased. The balance by gift or exchange.

GEORGE M. REED

Missouri Botanical Garden

The site chosen for an Iris Test Garden planted according to color is a level piece of ground protected on the north, west, and south by a heavy planting of trees. This site was selected because of the protection afforded by these trees against the strong, shifting winds which are prevalent during the spring months. The main Iris garden is in a more exposed position and it has been noted that in some years during Iris time the flowers opened beautifully in the morning, only to be later torn to pieces by the strong winds. As the plot for the Iris garden is level it was thought best to raise the beds to secure ample drainage. The rectangular beds are twelve feet wide and contain four rows of Iris, the plants being spaced three feet apart each way. The beds are separated by cinder paths and as each bed only contains four rows of plants this permits close observation of the flowers without the necessity of stepping on the beds, which frequently are muddy after the spring rains. Plate I. shows a view across the main part of the Test Garden looking south. This plot contains sixteen beds with a total capacity of 1120 clumps. This summer 867

Iris Test Garden, Missouri Botanical Garden, 1928

varieties of Iris were growing in this portion of the garden and additional varieties are still being transferred to these beds from the nursery rows. South of the rose pergola which divides the two Iris plots is a second garden surrounded by a privet hedge. This garden will accommodate 720 clumps, there being twenty beds and each bed having a capacity of thirty-six plants. The intention is to retain this garden for new varieties sent to the Garden for test and after their color is known they will be moved to the color planting. Some space has been provided in each of the twenty-five color sections for additional plants.

Very few varieties have been received this year; fifteen varieties from the New York Botanic Garden Test Garden, through the courtesy of Mrs. E. A. S. Peckham and one plant from Mr. Thos. M. Fendall, Leesburg, Va. The plants have grown well this summer and it is hoped that next spring the Test Garden will contain many beautiful clumps of Iris.

P. A. Kron

Morton Arboretum

This collection suffered severe losses because of the open winter of 1927–28, especially among the newer and finer varieties. However, Cornell has sent a number of plants to help make it up as has also the Test Garden at the N. Y. Botanical Garden. Other donors have been Mr. Fisher, Mr. L. J. Paxton, Mrs. Snow, and Mr. Winter. The garden is coming into nice shape under the supervision of Mr. Godshalk and he will be glad to have any varieties not on the A. I. S. Black List sent to him, as many plants are needed to bring all the beds up to the proper form. These donations may be addressed to Mr. Godshalk, Morton Arboretum, Lisle, DuPage Co., Illinois.

Ames, Iowa

The Test Garden at the Iowa State College of Agriculture at Ames, Iowa, is well laid out and neatly kept as the picture shows. Professor B. S. Pickett, who is in charge, writes: "The Irises are about the centre of the garden, the labels showing quite plainly at the ends of the rows. The photograph was taken a few days after the Irises were at their best and at a time when a good many of the peonies were open so that in the picture the peonies make rather the larger showing of the two. However, this picture shows the excellent location of the garden with reference to proximity to some of the college buildings and it also illustrates the accessibility from the standpoint of the public as there is a good drive on each side.

"We are considering duplicating tests in another part of the horticultural grounds and with your permission will divide some of the groups probably next spring. There is a possibility that the present location will be used for building sites in the near future and we would like to anticipate any such move by having a new garden completely developed before we have to give up the old one."

The selection of varieties in this garden is of a high standard. Older sorts have been sent to them this season in such quantity as could be spared. It would be a splendid idea for raisers of seedlings to send some of their plants to Ames, for reports upon their behavior in this part of the country would be

Iowa State College of Agriculture, Ames, Iowa—Iris Test Beds

extremely useful to us. Before reports of this nature can be of value test collections must contain the newer varieties in demand by the gardening public.

Minnesota

A new test garden has been started by Mr. F. X. Schreiner on the grounds of the University of Minnesota. He has stocked this generously from his own collection and contributions have been made from the N. Y. Botanical Garden. There is also a display garden in Como Park in which Mr. Schreiner is interested. It is urged that members living in the neighborhood of St. Paul should contribute to these gardens, sending the plants to Mr. Schreiner at Route 1, Riverview Station, St. Paul, Minnesota. Of course the varieties for the display garden should be limited to those of fairly high rating as we wish a park-visiting public to see and like the better things and we believe the standard of culture in this park is beyond the average. For the Test Gardens everything is necessary, whether of bearded or beardless groups and bulbous are not amiss when it is at an institution which maintains greenhouses and frames.

University of Saskatchewan

The Iris collection here may really be considered as a Test Garden for while there is not a very large number of varieties, the idea is to test the hardiness of certain groups and obtain accurate reports. Three large boxes of plants were sent from the N. Y. Botanical Garden, many of the varieties having been produced by hybridizers in the United States. Others known to be very hardy and floriferous in this vicinity were also sent and it is hoped that additional sets may go there next season.

It seems amazing to think of what that particular part of the country was like fifty years ago and to know that now there is a University upon whose grounds we may test out our Irises.

Canadian members could contribute to this garden as they need no permit. Others wishing to do so from this Country should write to Professor C. F. Patterson, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada, and he will get a permit of entry for the number of plants proposed to be shipped.

As to the general policy of the Test Garden Committee, it is eventually to have such a garden in each State. When collections are more complete, to compare hardiness and culture records and to use the garden as a basis for many scientific tests. It is now proposed to lay out an "heredity bed" in New York and suggestions as to how to go about this will be welcomed. The files of the gardens are in what might be termed a healthy condition without *too* much piling up of work undone. The Committee wishes gratefully to thank all those who have contributed in any way to these gardens whether by work, gifts, criticism, or by advice, and it invites a lot more of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

ETHEL ANSON S. PECKHAM,
Chairman.

REPORT OF DISPLAY GARDENS, 1928

To be able to record for the season of 1928 the establishing of nine new Display Gardens in as many states is indeed a source of gratification to the Committee, and to each American Iris Society member and friend whose aid and generosity has made that achievement possible we wish to express sincere appreciation.

Photo by E. A. S. Peckham

Iris Field Day, Springfield, Mass., 1928. Mrs. Nesmith, Mr. Ladd, Mr. Mills, Mr. Wister

Of the twenty gardens now in affiliation with the Society, the East is represented by twelve exhibition plantings. In New York are three Display Gardens, located at NEW ROCHELLE, LARCHMONT, and MOUNT VERNON, public library grounds in each case offering sites for the gardens. The planting at New Rochelle, originated by Mrs. Peckham, is under the care of the Garden Club of that city, and is kept in order by the Department of Parks. Because an addition was being built to the library this season, no extension of the planting was undertaken, but next year will see replanting, discarding of the poorer varieties, and the addition of new sorts. The Larchmont garden, started in June, 1925, was made possible by gifts from friends, together with a surplus from the Botanical Garden in the Bronx. It was made as a border

Photo by E. A. S. Peckham

Iris Garden, Forest Park, Springfield, Mass., 1928

planting of irregular outline around the grounds of the library. In the collection there are about two hundred and twenty varieties, nearly all of which have recently been divided and reset, the work having been done under the auspices of the Garden Club of Larchmont, village authorities cooperating.

The STONINGTON Historical Society and the STONINGTON Garden Club (Connecticut) unite to sponsor the Display Garden in their city. The planting was first set in 1926 on the Old Lighthouse Grounds—a collection of over a hundred varieties which should be available for exhibition in early June of next year, Dr. Williams reports.

In July, 1927, plans were undertaken for an exhibition planting on the College grounds at the University of New Hampshire, located at DURHAM, the College of Agriculture sponsoring the garden, with Prof. Potter in direct supervision. The plantation this year produced some very fine blooms, but not sufficient in number to warrant holding a field day. It is hoped that the collection can be considerably enlarged next season, since it is so favorably located as to be assured of excellent care. A garden newly established this year is at KEENE (New Hampshire) at the Normal School. Mrs. Nesmith, Vice-President of the New England region, has aided in choosing the location for the planting and has given from her own garden toward the collection of a hundred or so varieties, securing other gifts from the Harvard Botanic Garden, and from Springfield.

Massachusetts leads the states in the number of display plantings, four being located within its boundaries. The first was established in 1927 at Forest Park, in SPRINGFIELD, and is under the supervision of the Department of Parks; a second was acquired at the Harvard Botanic Garden, in CAMBRIDGE, later in the same year; and of two, new this year, one is situated at the Massachusetts Agricultural College at AMHERST, while plans for the other are being prepared in HAVERHILL by the Park Department. The SPRINGFIELD garden possesses a very fine collection, having this season added some exceptionally good varieties—gifts from private gardens, from the Bronx Botanical, and from Cornell, the collection now numbering at least four hundred varieties. Mr. G. Allison Mills is at the head of the Iris Department and both he and Mr. Ladd are keenly interested in the garden. A field day, held in June, was well attended. To AMHERST have been sent gifts of about a hundred varieties this season for the newly established planting there—a garden sponsored by the Agricultural College and under the supervision of Prof. Thayer. It is always gratifying to secure the cooperation of the State Agricultural Colleges for theirs is the logical location for such plantings as we wish to have established in each state. HAVERHILL, whose affiliation with the American Iris Society is also of this season, has placed the stock of plants received into temporary quarters and in the Spring the Park Department will have the grounds landscaped so that the Irises may be arranged in the best possible setting. The HARVARD BOTANIC GARDEN, at CAMBRIDGE, has a splendid collection of four hundred of the Tall Bearded Irises, this number not including the beardless, dwarf, or species. Numbered among the first named are most of Miss Sturtevant's introductions, a gift from her; Mr. B. Y. Morrison has sent twenty of his newer ones; from Sass Brothers came about twenty of their own originations; also new varieties were sent by many other members and friends, making altogether a collection of which Harvard Botanic and Mr. Hamblin, Director of the Garden, may justly be proud.

Under the auspices of the State of New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station a garden was planted in the Fall of 1927 at NEW BRUNSWICK, Prof. Connors of the Department of Horticulture, in charge. And from NEWARK the Essex County Park Commission aid in a garden, begun in September, 1926, at Orange Park in the city of Orange, the first stock having been presented to the Commission from the collection of the late Dr. George Kent.

The Central States have as yet but two gardens, both recently undertaken. In Illinois, BELLEVILLE will establish a planting next season on the grounds of St. Henry's College, the authorities of the College agreeing to attend to the details of care. The area to be planted borders on a lake—a property ideal in so far as drainage, soil, and moisture are concerned. The Garden at GOODLAND (Indiana) is sponsored by the Goodland Garden Club and by the Park Board. The original stock for the planting is at present being grown in temporary quarters, and will later be added to and moved into its permanent setting.

West of the Mississippi are the gardens at TOPEKA (Kansas) and at LINCOLN (Nebraska). The Topeka Horticultural Society has the former planting in charge at Gage Park. Plants have been sent them from private gardens as well as from the Society and theirs is already an excellent collection, especially for so new a planting. More is planned for next season,

however, as stock is available. The garden at LINCOLN is fortunate in possessing both the College of Agriculture of the University of Nebraska and the Lincoln Garden Club as its sponsors. The planting, located on the campus of the College of Agriculture, is well under way, though newly affiliated with the American Iris Society. The collection comprises about three hundred varieties with nearly all of the Sass Brothers' introduction and some they have not yet named or distributed. Mr. Dunman, supervising the garden, writes that Irises do very well in the hot and dry Nebraska climate.

DULUTH (Minnesota) is our most northerly garden thus far, and it is from this planting that we hope for reports of hardiness of some of the doubtful varieties. The Iris Department of the Duluth Peony Society sponsors the planting in Portland Square, and the foundation stock of a hundred varieties was sent by Mr. Schreiner, of St. Paul, who is Regional Vice-President for Minnesota, Wisconsin and the Dakotas, and whose keen interest and generosity has made possible the establishing of two gardens in his region this year, the second being under way in MILWAUKEE (Wisconsin) where the combined efforts of the Milwaukee Horticultural Society, the Milwaukee Park Board, and the Iris growers and florists of the city will insure an excellent display in a short time. Some plants have already been set, and the collection will be increased considerably next season.

To the South are two new gardens, both new this year. At COLUMBIA (South Carolina) the planting is at Valley Park, the City Council and the Iris Committee of the Columbia Garden Club cooperating in its establishment and care. Four large formal beds of Irises, backed by bands of perennials and flowering shrubs, comprise the garden which is not yet complete, but next season will see additional varieties and larger quantities planted. GOLDSBORO (North Carolina) is establishing an exhibition planting this Fall at Herman Park under the auspices of the Park Department of the city and the Garden Club. Goldsboro has adopted the Iris as its civic flower and has encouraged its planting both in public areas and in private gardens—with such interest already assured, the Display Garden there should be unusually successful.

Next season it will be our privilege to welcome the affiliation of display plantings in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco; in Piedmont Park at Atlanta; in Birmingham, Alabama; and at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. We are also hoping for the cooperation of the Agricultural College at Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana.

To accomplish the expansion for which this Committee so eagerly hopes, assistance will need to come from members and friends who are willing to share the increase of their own gardens. The available surplus from established display plantings has been far from sufficient to supply the demands this past season, and, with a waiting list already in existence for 1929, it is evident the need for additional stock will continue until the greater number of exhibition gardens will be able to furnish sufficient surplus to establish new plantings. May we hope for the continued generosity of those who are interested in the Display Garden project?

Respectfully submitted,

Olive B. Hoornbeek,
Chairman, Display Gardens.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON EXCHANGE OF RARE SPECIES

To the President and Board of Directors:

The notice of the fact that a chairman had been appointed to attend to the needs of the Society in the securing of rare species of Iris through exchange has happily made little impression upon the readers of the Bulletin for there have been only six letters of inquiry up to the present time which can be traced definitely to this announcement. Three things seemed to be desired: *Iris reticulata, I. ruthenica,* and the new species described by Dr. Small. None of these are available from any American source known to the chairman with the exception of *Iris shrevei* which is much like *I. versicolor* and apparently of lesser interest than the new species in the Hexagona Group.

The only material for exchange which has actually been received has come from Mr. Joseph Aerts of Brussels, who would like in exchange American varieties of bearded Iris other than the following: Afterglow, Anna Farr, Bluet, B. Y. Morrison, Cecil Minturn, Fryer's Glory, Lent A. Williamson, Morning Splendor, Quaker Lady, Shekinah, Sherwin-Wright, Solana, and Virginia Moore. Mr. J. N. Giridlian, of the Southland Iris Garden, 976 Palm Terrace, Pasadena, California, writes that he has 500 seeds of *Iris Hartwegi,* 100 seeds of *Iris vartani* and 300 seeds of *Iris dichotoma* as well as bulbs of *Iris sisyrinchium, I. tuberosa* and *I. pavonia* for exchange. Mr. Giridlian also writes that through his correspondence, Herbst Bros., of 42 South Street, New York City, are offering seed from Japan of *Iris laevigata, I. setosa, I. ensata, I. japonica, I. tectorum,* and *I. gracilipes* at $2.50 an ounce. It should be mentioned that this firm supplies chiefly to the trade.

After a fairly exhaustive survey of catalogues and advertisements in 1928, the would-be collector of iris species in this country need not be too disconsolate. The following species were discovered and it is possible that some few may have been overlooked.

arenaria
aurea
bracteata
californica
chrysofor
chrysographes
chrysophylla
cristata
cristata alba
cypriana
delavayi
dichotoma
douglasiana
ensata
forrestii
fulva (cuprea)
germanica
gormani
gracilipes
graminea
güldenstadtiana (spuria)
hartwegi
hexagona (foliosa also under this name)
hoogiana
hookeri (setosa)
japonica
japonica (Ledger's variety)
laevigata
laevigata alba
laevigata albo-purpurea
longipetala
longipetala superba
milesi

minuta
missouriensis (and named varieties, also as tolmieana)
monnieri
monspur
ochroleuca (and varieties)
orientalis (and varieties)
persica
pseudacorus (and varieties)
pumila (and varieties)
purdyi
shrevei
sibirica (and varieties)
spuria (and varieties)
stolonifera
susiana
tectorum
tectorum alba
tenax
tingitana (and varieties)
tricuspis
trojana
unguicularis (as stylosa and varieties)
verna
versicolor
watsoniana
watti
wilsoni
xiphioides (only as horticultural varieties)
xiphium (only as horticultural varieties)

From this list it can be seen that the Apogon section is fairly well represented and that the Evansias are well covered. The striking omissions are among the members of the Reticulata group, the Junos, the Regelias and the Oncocyclus. Who will make their introduction and dissemination a labor of love can not be told now.

Any member who is interested to know where any of the species listed were catalogued in 1928 will be informed if he will send the chairman his request with a stamped addressed envelope for the reply.

Respectfully submitted,
B. Y. Morrison,
116 Chestnut St.,
Takoma Park, D. C.

REPORT OF THE SLIDE COMMITTEE

I really have very little to report as chairman of the slides, and believe it will be sufficient to say that the slides are being used in widely distributed sections of the country, having gone to clubs in Alabama, Massachusetts, Indiana, New York, and Illinois. Several new slides have been added, three being contributed by Mr. Salbach, two of which illustrate the lovely new Frieda Mohr.

It is hoped that other Iris growers will contribute slides or the negatives for us to use. Finding someone to color our slides is exceedingly difficult, since the colors of Irises are very elusive. In varying lights conditions are so different it is well nigh impossible to depict the colors on a slide.

Everywhere the slides have been used they have proved of educational value.

Mrs. Silas B. Waters

Photo by E. A. S. Peckham

The pool in Mrs. Karcher's garden,
Freeport, Ill., June 7th, 1928.

ACTIVITIES DURING 1928

ANNUAL MEETING, FREEPORT, ILLINOIS, JUNE 6, 1928

The President's report has already referred to the large attendance. This was due in part to the fact that it was the first meeting to be held west of Chicago and in a locality convenient to direct railroad connections from all parts of Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, Nebraska, and Minnesota, a large territory from which it has not heretofore been convenient for members to come to our meetings. But much more was it due to the reputation of Freeport as an Iris growing center which had staged many fine Iris shows in recent years.

The Freeport people certainly lived up to their reputation for efficient organization for the Iris show was put on beautifully according to carefully laid plans, and there was a minimum of the friction, vexations and delays that so often come up at the last minute among less experienced exhibitors. Despite recent severe storms the quality of the flowers was very fine and many classes brought out close competition and made difficult judging. An innovation at the show was the fact that not alone were the Irises labeled—our members were registered and labeled as they came in! This gave everybody an opportunity to know everybody else, and we all met members whom we had hitherto known by name only.

The show was wonderfully advertised and drew a large paid attendance. This was a revelation to many who had struggled with Iris shows in various parts of the country and who had put on good exhibits only to be disappointed by small attendance. A good attendance is not an accident but the result of efficient preparation and wise publicity.

Official details of the show (briefly given in BULLETIN 29), can not convey to those who were not present the great interest that attached to such fine exhibits as Mrs. Pattison's, which was not entered in competition. It was evident that most of our members were seeing these varieties for the first time and there were constant discussions about the merits (or otherwise) of this or that expensive novelty. Such discussion naturally led to visits by hundreds of persons to Mrs. Pattison's garden where the varieties

could be seen growing and where such varieties as Mrs. Valerie West and Peerless were constant centers of attraction. Many other fine Freeport gardens were graciously opened to our members.

Our members were guests at the banquet given at the Freeport Country Club in the evening. We were welcomed by the toastmaster, Mr. Douglas Pattison, and by the Mayor of the city, who remarked that he wasn't an orator, couldn't make a speech, but that he could promise out of town automobilists that they would not be arrested if they happened to get mixed up about the local traffic regulations or parked in wrong places by mistake! This statement met with more enthusiasm than any long or elaborate speech.

But little business was transacted at the annual meeting. The hour was late and all present had had a strenuous day. After the formal introduction by the toastmaster, the President reported briefly on the work of the Society for the year. Reports which were read from the Secretary and the Treasurer, both of whom were in Europe, showed the healthy condition of the Society as regards memberships and finances. Brief reports were presented by various committee chairmen who were present, and then discussion was thrown open to the members. Many phases of Iris growing were presented from the point of view of the different climates in which various members lived and such discussions, arguments or questions constitute the greatest value of any horticultural meeting. The smallest and most modest grower may have things to tell that are of the greatest value.

The morning after the meeting was again spent at the Show. The rock gardens referred to briefly in the show report proved to some even more fascinating than the Iris. These gardens would have done credit to the Grand Central Palace Show in New York, or to the National Flower Show in Cleveland, and were a remarkable example of enthusiasm and skill not ordinarily met with.

During the morning there was a meeting of the Mid-West Garden Club which was attended by officers and delegates from many Garden Clubs of Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa and other nearby states. While part of this meeting was taken up with matters which pertained to these clubs, a great deal of extra time was given to the Iris because the meeting was held in conjunction with the Iris show. Members of the various clubs spoke of the cultivation of

Iris in various localities, and the meeting was officially addressed by Mr. Wister and Mr. Connell for the American Iris Society. While their talks were brief there was opportunity after each talk for a long discussion as to how the American Iris Society could best cooperate with individual clubs for the encouragement of Iris growing in other localities, and in this way many valuable suggestions were brought out.

In the afternoon we were again the guests of our Freeport gardening friends on an automobile trip of which the principal attractions were Mr. Boehland's large garden in Rockford and Mrs. Fellow's small but equally fascinating garden in Belvidere.

The officers and directors wish again to express their appreciation of the Freeport hospitality and also to place on record the remarkable work our Freeport Iris members are doing to make the better Iris more appreciated in this section of Illinois.

Publications: Bulletins Nos. 26, 27, 28, and 29 including Science Series 1, 2, and 3 and Garden Pictures 1, 2.

Honorable Mentions Awarded at Exhibitions: No. 399A (Essig), Sunlight (Sturtevant), Persia (Ayres), two seedlings (Kirkland), Sass, J.; Sass, H. P.; two seedlings (Berry).

Bronze Medals to Mrs. John R. Fisher (Ashland, Va.), Glen Road Iris Gardens (Boston, Mass.), Mrs. Bernard Allen (Cheshire, Conn.), Mrs. J. H. Gibbs (Columbia, S. C.), Mrs. G. R. Scruggs (Dallas, Tex.), Mrs. J. L. Dodge (Lexington, Ky.), Mrs. Thomas Nesmith (Lowell, Mass.), Mrs. T. J. Kirkpatrick (Lynchburg, Va.), J. E. Hill (Providence, R. I.), Miss Mary Beirne (Richmond, Va.), W. S. Snyder (Sioux City, Ia.), Mrs. E. Paul du Pont (Wilmington, Del.), J. M. R. Adams (Washington, D. C.).

Silver Medals to T. F. Donahue (Boston, Mass.), Mrs. W. L. Calkins (Freeport, Ill.), Dr. Scott (Lexington, Ky.), E. W. Sheets (Washington, D. C.), G. L. Pilkington (London, England).

Exhibitions: Ashland, Va.; Berkeley, Calif.; Boston, Mass.; Cheshire, Conn.; Columbia, S. C.; Dallas, Texas; Freeport, Ill.; Lexington, Ky.; Lowell, Mass.; Lynchburg, Va.; New Haven, Conn.; Omaha, Neb.; Providence, R. I.; Redlands, Calif.; Richmond, Va.; Seattle, Wash.; Sioux City, Ia., Wilmington, Del.; Worcester, Mass.

Research: A grant to Donald B. Ries, Ithaca, N. Y., for investigation of Iris insects—report forthcoming; to Dr. A. B. Stout for continued studies of heredity at the New York Botanical Garden; to Dr. George M. Reed for study of Japanese Irises at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden.

Plantings: See reports of Test and Display Gardens.

Meetings of the Board of Directors

February 11, 1928: Election of officers confirmed; routine reports approved; Farr Memorial Library approved, Richardson Wright, Chairman, Mrs. J. Edgar Hires; Resolved that only amateurs be eligible to Test and Trial Garden Committees; that Mrs. Peckham especially be thanked for her work in connection with the Marsh Botanical Garden at Yale.

June 6, 1928: Joint meeting with Directors of Commercial Peony and Iris Growers' Association to discuss best means of cooperation between the two societies.

December 15, 1928, New York City: Routine reports approved; grants of $200 to Dr. A. B. Stout for continuation of studies during 1929 at the New York Botanical Garden, to Dr. George Reed for work at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden; of $500 towards the publication of the Check List; Silver Medal awarded to George C. Tribolet (Williamson, 1926); additions to collection of Lantern Slides authorized; the resignation of Miss Mary Judson Averett as Associate Editor accepted with sincere regret.

REGISTRATIONS FOR 1928

Originators Not Yet Listed

Ayres—Dr. W. McL. Ayres, Cincinnati, O.
Bran.—Mrs. Jemima Branin, San Lorenzo, Calif.
Breth.—Dr. F. G. Brethour, Toronto, Canada.
Essig.—Prof. E. O. Essig, Berkeley, Calif.
Free.—Mrs. Angelo C. Freeborn, Proctor, Vt.
Hill—Prof. John E. Hill, Providence, R. I.
Home.—Homewood Iris Gardens, Homewood, Ill.
Kirk.—J. H. Kirkland, Nashville, Tenn.
Lap.—E. G. Lapham, Elkhart, Ind.
Moore—Irving Moore, Monmouth, Ill.
Nes.—Mrs. T. J. Nesmith, Lowell, Mass.
Piper—Ralph B. Piper, Glad-Iris Gardens, Washington, D. C.
Row.—Mrs. Caroline S. Rowell, Kansas City, Mo.
San.—Morton W. Sanford, Chino, Calif.
Sher.—Charles A. Sherman, Freeport, Ill.
Small—Dr. J. K. Small, N. Y. Botanical Garden, New York City.
Tobie—Mrs. Walter E. Tobie, Portland, Maine.
Van Name—Miss Theodora Van Name, R. G. Van Name, New Haven, Conn.

NO PERSON OTHER THAN THE ORIGINATOR MAY REGISTER A SEEDLING UNLESS PERMISSION TO MAKE SUCH REGISTRATION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE ORIGINATOR AND NOTICE OF SUCH PERMISSION MUST BE SENT TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE REGISTRATION COMMITTEE AT THE TIME SUCH REGISTRATION IS MADE.

ABORA. TB (Hill).
ACACIA ROSE. TB (H. P. Sass).
AFRICA. TB (Pilk.).
AGNI. TB (Con.).
AIRY DREAM. TB (Sturt.).
albispiritis. Hex. (Small); new species.
ALCANNA. TB (Wmsn.).
ALICE AILEEN. TB (Breth.). R., Canad. Hort. Counc. 1928.
ALPENGLOW. TB (Wmsn.).
AMANECER. TB (Wmsn.).
ANDANTE. TB (Wmsn.).
ANDELIA. TB (Sturt.).
ANDREW JACKSON. TB (Kirk.).
ANNIE LAURIE. TB (Moore).
ANTRIM. TB (Mor.).
atrocyanea. Hex. (Small); new species.
AZURINE. TB (Wmsn.).

BANDEROLE. TB (Mor.).
BEAU SABREUR. TB (Wmsn.).
BEDOUIN. TB (Nes.).
BELLE PORTER. TB (Lap.).
BENEDICTUS. TB (Mor.).

BLACK AND WHITE. TB (Row.).
BLACK BEAUTY. TB (Kirk.).
BLUE BANNER. TB (Kirk.).
BONITA. TB (Mohr-Mit.-Salb.).
BONNIE LAD. TB (Home.).
BRANGAENE. TB (Mor.).
BRIAN BORU. TB (Mor.).

CALIDORE. TB (Yeld).
CAMILLA DUBUAR. TB (Lap.).
CANUTE. TB (Mor.).
CAPTAIN COURAGEOUS. TB (Row.).
CARNIVAL. TB (Wmsn.); formerly *Sordida.*
CATHAY. TB (Mor.).
CATHERINE CALISTA. TB (Tobie).
CHALCEDONY. TB (Wmsn.).
CHAMPION. TB (Kirk.).
CHANTICLEER. TB (Home.).
CHARIS. TB (Nes. 1927).
CHARLEMANGE. TB (Kirk.).
CHEVALIER. TB (Mor.).
CHIANTI. TB (Wmsn.).
CHRISTOPHE. Sib. (Free.).
chrysaiola. Hex. (Small); new species.
chrysophoenicia. Hex. (Small); new species.
CIMBRIA. TB (H. P. Sass).
CINNABAR. TB (Wmsn.).
COCKATOO. TB (Mor.).
COLUSA. TB (Mohr-Mit.-Salb.); formerly *Consuelo.*
CONCHITA. TB (Mohr-Mit.-Salb.).
CORAL. TB (Mor.).
CORONATION. TB (Moore).
CORSAIR. TB (Mor.).
CORSICAN. TB (Mor.).
CYNRIC. TB (Yeld).
CYPRIOTE. TB (Mor.).

DANUBE. TB (Home.).
DOROTHY DIETZ. TB (Wmsn.).
DOXA. TB (H. P. Sass); *Olive Giant.* H. M., A. I. S. 1928.
DREADNAUGHT. TB (Kirk.); H. M., A. I. S. 1928.

ECSTACY. TB (Mor.).
EDGE HILL. TB (Ayres).
ELFIN WHITE. TB (Sim.).
EL MORENO. TB (Sher.).
ERIN. TB (Mor.).
ESCAMILLO. TB (Mor.).
ESTRELLON. TB (Mohr-Mit.-Salb.); formerly *Estrella.*
EUPHEMIA. TB (Lap.).
EUPHONI. TB (H. P. Sass); formerly *Firefly.*
EVENSONG. TB (Mor.).
EXARCH. TB (Yeld).

FAFNER. TB (Mor.).
FAIRY LADY. TB (Mor.).
FALCON. TB (Mor.).
FESTIVE. TB (Mor.).
FLAME. TB (Con.).
FLAMINGO. TB (Wmsn.).
FIREFALL. TB (Essig).
FOLLY. TB (Mor.).
FRIAR TUCK. TB (Wmsn.).

GAY HUSSAR. TB (Wmsn.).
GINEVRA. TB (Yeld).
giganticaerulea. Hex. (Small); new species.
GOLDEN GIFT. TB (Tobie).
GOLDEN MAISE. TB (San.).
GOLDEN STATE. Spur. (Bran.).
GOLD DUST. TB (H. P. Sass).
GOLD STANDARD. TB (Edl.).
GOLD STREAM. TB (Edl.).
GRAND MONARCH. TB (Row.).
GREY LADY. TB (Pilk.).
GREY PRINCE. TB (Sim.).
GRISELDA. TB (Wmsn. No. 214).
GRISETTE. TB (Wmsn. No. 335).

HELEN OF TROY. TB (Kirk.).
HENCHMAN. TB (Mor.).
HERMITAGE. TB (Kirk.).

HIGHLIGHT. TB Y4 (Nes. 1927); formerly *Golden Gleam*
HOARFROST. TB (Mor.).
HOEDUR. TB (H. P. Sass).
HONEYDROP. TB (Mor.).
HYACINTHUS. TB (Wmsn).
HYDROMEL. TB (Wmsn.).
HYPNOS. TB (Con.).
ILLUMINATOR. TB (Wmsn.).
INDIAN. TB (H. P. Sass).
INDIAN CHIEF. TB (Ayres).

JADU. TB (Sturt.).
JANE WILLIAMSON. TB (Wmsn.).

KAFFIR. TB (Pilk.).
KAITVEE. TB (Ayres).
KENYA. TB (Pilk.).
KILLYLEAGH. TB (Ayres).
KRISHNA. TB (Con.).

LALLA ROOKH. TB (Home.).
LA REINE. TB (Kirk.).
LILYBROW. TB (Yeld).
LUCUMO. TB (Yeld).

MANITOBA. TB (Pilk.).
MARESCHAL NEY. TB (Wmsn.).
MARY ELIZABETH. TB (Kirk.).
MARY NOBLE. TB (Nes.).
MATILDA. TB (J. Sass).
MATULI. DB (Gers.).
miraculosa. Hex. (Small); new species.
MIRASOL. TB (Mohr-Mit.-Salb.).
MONTEREY. TB (Mohr-Mit.-Salb.).
MONTPELIER. TB (Sim.).
MORNING GLORY. TB (Kirk.).
MOTHER MACHREE. TB (Moore).
MRS. WICHT. TB (H. P. Sass).
MUSCATEL. TB (Wmsn.).

NANOOK. TB (Ayres).
NEBULAE. TB (Sass-Bratt).
NEHAWKA. TB (J. Sass).
NELLIE GRAY. TB (Moore).
NINGAL. TB (Ayres).
NORSEMAN. TB (Mor.).
NOUREDDIN. TB (Con.).
NUSKU. TB (Nes.).
NYX. TB (H. P. Sass).

ODALISQUE. TB (Mor.).
OLD GOLD. TB (H. P. Sass).
ONYX. TB (Wmsn.).
OPALINE. TB (Wmsn.).
OSSAR. TB (H. P. Sass).

PADUSOY. TB (J. Sass); H. M., A. I. S. 1928.
PARROT. TB (Name).
PARSIFAL. TB (Mor.).
PARTHENON. TB (Con.).
PELLENORE. TB (Yeld).
PERSIA. TB (Ayres); H. M., A. I. S. 1928.
PICADOR. TB (Mor.).
PIRATE. TB (Mor.).
PIXIE. DB (H. P. Sass).
PURPLE EAST. TB (Sturt.).
PURPLE EVE. TB (Tobie).
PURPLE GLORY. TB (Piper).

RAGUSA. TB (H. P. Sass).
RAMESES. TB (H. P. Sass).
RAPTURE. TB (Mor.).
REDBANK. TB (Hall).
RED DOMINION. TB (Ayres).
RHEA. TB (Wmsn.).
RIDGWAY. TB (Tobie).
ROB ROY. TB (Kirk.).
ROSE MARIE. TB (Home.).
ROYAL ROBE. TB (Kirk.). H. M., A. I. S., 1928.
ROZANNA. TB (Sim.).

SACRAMENTO. TB (Mohr-Mit.-Salb.).
SAGAMORE. Sib. (Berry).
SAGGITARIUS. TB (Mor.).
SAN DIEGO. TB (Mohr-Mit.-Salb.).
SAN LUIS REY. TB (Mohr-Mit.-Salb.).
SARGOSSA. TB (Mor.).

SEGOVIA. TB (Wmsn.).
SELENE. TB (Con.).
SENATOBIA. TB (Sim.). H. M., A. I. S. 1924.
SENORITA. TB (Mohr-Mit.-Salb.).
SERENA. TB (Yeld).
SEVILLE. TB (Mor.).
SIERRA LEONE. TB (Pilk.).
SIR LAUNFAL. TB (Kirk.).
SONATA. TB (Wmsn.).
SONOMA. TB (Mohr-Mit.-Salb.).
SOPHIE. TB (Lap.).
STALWART. TB (Mor.).
STIPPLES. TB (Essig).
SUMMER CLOUD. TB (Kirk.).
SUNSET GOLD. TB (San.).
SUNSTAR. TB (Mor.).
SWEET SIXTEEN. TB (Lap.).

TASMANIA. TB (Pilk.).
TENNESSEE. TB (Kirk.).
THALIARCH. TB (Yeld).
TITANIA. DB (H. P. Sass).
TUSCANY GOLD. TB (Wmsn.).
TUSCARORA. TB (Wmsn.).

UNCLE REMUS. TB (Essig). H. M., A. I. S., 1927.

VIN ROUGE. TB (Home.).
VIOLET CROWN. TB (Kirk.).
violipurpurea. Hex. (Small); new species.

WACONDA. TB (H. P. Sass).
WOOD NYMPH. TB. (Mor.).

ZAMORA. TB (Wmsn.).
ZEALOT. TB (Mor.).
ZINGARA. TB (Wmsn.).

INTRODUCTIONS FOR 1928

Additions to List of Introducers

Higo. Higo Iris Society, Higo, Japan.
Chugai. Chugai Shokubutsu Yen, Yamamoto, Nr. Kobe, Japan.

Explanation. Species in bold lower case thus: **korolkowi.** Approved names in large and small capitals thus: PLUIE D'OR; AZURE. Conflicting names, and those which have not yet been investigated, in lower case thus: Regulus. Synonyms in italics thus: *Razona.* Corrections have been left out as they will appear in the new CHECK LIST which will go to press soon after this Bulletin is published.

The color key letters are from the plan adopted for the new CLASSIFICATION. B, is blue; R, red; W, white; Y, yellow; L, light; M, medium; D, dark; 1 and 7 are self; 2 and 8 plicata or veined; 3 and 9 bicolor. High numbers are on the red side. L. Corresponds to "listed." The form used is that of the new CHECK LIST.

ALAGOZ. Jap. (Chi. 1928); L. Chi. 1928; (No. 203).
Alcazar II. TB–B3 L. Schreiner 1928.
Algol. TB–B1M (Vilm. 1928); L. Vilm. 1928; C. M., S. N. H. F. 1926.
ALLEGRIA. MB–Reg–B (Den. 1928); (RC HERA × **cypriana**).
ALTAIR. TB–S3M (Vilm. 1928); L. Vilm. 1928; C. M., S. N. H. F. 1926.
AMBROSIA. TB–W7 (Sturt. 1927); L. Sturt. 1928.
AMERICA. TB–Y2 (Sass, J., 1928); L. Wayman 1928.
ANNA ARCHER. TB–B1D (Sass, H. P., 1928); L. Wayman 1928.

ANNE–MARIE CAYEUX. TB–S4L (Cay. 1928); L. Cay. 1928.
AQUARELLE. TB (Mur. N.)
Asahiminato. Jap. (Higo Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.
Auvera. TB–S (Sass, J.); L. Wayman, 1928; QUEVERA.
BEZANT. TB (Mur. N.)
BLUE CHINTZ. TB–W2 (Burton N.)
Bokhara. Jap. (Chi. 1928); L. Chi. 1928; (No. 216).
BONITA. TB–Y4M (Mohr-Mit.-Salb. 1928); L. Salb. 1928; (RAMONA × SHEKINAH).
BONNIE BLUE. TB–B1M. (Sturt. Reg. 1927); L. Sturt. 1928.
Cassandre. TB–S9L (Cay. 1928); L. Cay. 1928.
Celestine. Sib. (Clev. 1928); L. Wayman 1928.
CHALCEDONY. TB–S7L (Wmsn. 1928); L. Long. 1928.
CHANTICLEER. TB–S (Home. 1928); L. Home. 1928.
CHARLOTTE. Jap. (Kemp 1928).
Chitose-no-tomo. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.
Chugai-no-homare. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.
cilicica. Ens. L. Wayman 1928.
CINNABAR. TB–S9D (Wmsn. 1928); L. Long. 1928.
CLAUDE AUREAU. TB–Y9D (Cay. 1928); L. Cay. 1928; C. M., S. N. H. F. 1928 and Spec. Prize.
CLEMENT DUBUFFE. TB–B3L (Cay. 1928); L. Cay. 1928.
CLODA. TB–B (Dykes 1928).
CONCHITA. TB–Y9M (Mohr-Mit.-Salb. 1928); L. Salb. 1928.
Consuelo. TB–R7D (Mohr-Mit.-Salb. 1928); L. Salb. 1928; COLUSA.
CYDALISE. TB–Y5 (Cay. N.)
DAGHASTAN. Jap. (Chi. 1928); L. Chi. 1928.
DELAVAYI PALLIDA. Sib. (Per. 1928); L. Per. 1928.
DIONE. TB–W1 (Edl. Reg. 1925); L. Sturt. 1928.
Don Juan. TB–S9M (Cay. 1928); L. Cay. 1928.
ELFIN WHITE. TB–W1 (Sim. 1928.)
ESTEREL. TB–R7D (Edl. Reg. 1927); L. Sturt. 1928.
Estrella. TB–S9L (Mohr-Mit.-Salb. 1928); L. Salb. 1928; ESTRELLON.
EVOLUTION. TB–S4L (Cay. 1928); L. Cay. 1928; C. M., S. N. H. F. 1928.
FARANDOLE. TB–R3M (Cay. 1928); L. Cay. 1928.
FAUN. TB L. Schreiner 1928.
FEDALMA. TB (Dykes 1928).
FEULE GORE. TB–R7D (Cay. N.)
FIREFALL. TB–S3D (Essig 1928); L. Salb. 1928; (MRS. HAW × ELDORADO).
Firefly. TB (Sass, J.); L. Wayman 1928; EUPHONI
FLORIDOR. TB–S1M (Cay. 1928); L. Cay. 1928.
FRA ANGELICO. TB–S4L (Vilm. 1926); C. M., S. N. H. F. 1926; L. Wayman 1928.
Fusow-no-mine. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.
GAIETE. TB–W8 (Vilm. 1928); L. Vilm. 1928.
GERICAULT. TB–S6L (Cay. 1928); L. Cay. 1928; C. M., S. N. H. F. 1927.
Gluck. TB–S6M (Cay. 1928); L. Cay. 1928.

GOLD STANDARD. TB–Y5L (Edl. Reg. 1927); L. Sturt. 1928.
GREUZE. TB–S6L (Cay. 1928); L. Cay. 1928.
GRISELDA. TB–R9L (Wmsn. 1928); L. Long. 1928; (AZURE × ——).
GRISETTE. TB–S7M (Wmsn. 1928); L. Long. 1928; (MME. CHERI × ——).
Hakudzuru. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.
Hakuho. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.
Hana-ikada. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.
Helios. TB–Y3L (Cay. 1928); L. Pat. 1928.
HORACE VERNET. TB–S9L (Cay. 1928); L. Cay. 1928.
HYACINTHUS. TB–S9L (Wmsn. 1928); L. Long. 1928; (ARNOLS × ——).
Iceburg. TB (Cay. N).
ISABEY. TB–B1M (Cay. 1928); L. Cay. 1928.
Isouchimani. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.
ISPAHAN. Jap. (Chi. 1928); L. Chi. 1928; (No. 208).
JANE WILLIAMSON. TB–S7L (Wmsn. 1928); L. Long. 1928; (PARC DE NEUILLY × ——).
JEAN CAYEUX. TB S3D (Cay. N).
JEAN SIRET. DB L. Wayman 1928.
Karahashi. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.
Kokuhow. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai, 1928.
LA MOUCHE. TB (Mil. 1928); L. Schreiner 1928.
LE TITIEN. TB–S9L (Vilm. 1928); L. Vilm. 1928; C. M., S. N. H. F. 1926.
LE VARDAR. TB–R7M (F. Cay. 1928); L. Cay. 1928; C. M., S. N. H. F. 1922.
LILIAN. TB–R7L (Cay. N); L. Cay. 1928.
LOUIS DAVID. TB–S9D (Cay. 1928); L. Cay. 1928.
LUCIANE. TB–R3M (Cay. 1928).
LUCASTA. TB (Yeld N.).
Maiko-no-hama. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.
MAISIE LOWE. TB–B3D (Lowe. 1928).
Marden. TB–S (Nes. 1928). NUSKU.
Matsu-no-sakae. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.
MIGNARD. TB–B3L. (Vilm. 1928); L. Vilm. 1928; C. M., S. N. H. F. 1927.
Mikawa-no-ike. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.
Mikoshi-no-matsu. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.
Miodoroki. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.
MIRZA. Sib. (Yeld 1925); L. Orp. 1928 (DELAVAYI × ——).
Miyakoshibori. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.
Miyoshino. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928; L. Chugai. 1928.
MONGOL KHAN. Jap. (Chi. 1928); L. Chi. 1928; (No. 165).
MONTPELIER. TB–W2 (Sim. 1928); L. Sheets 1928.
Morera. MB–S7M (Mohr-Mit.-Salb. 1928); L. Salb. 1928; (**korolkowi** × IB–MAC).
Murakumo. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.
MURILLO. TB–S9M (Vilm. 1928); L. Vilm. 1928; C. M., S. N. H. F.
MYSTERY. TB–S4L (Sturt. Reg. 1924); L. Sturt. 1928.
Nagao-no-haru. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.

NÊNE. TB–B9M (Cay. 1928); L. Cay. 1928.
NUMA ROUMESTAN. TB–S9M (Cay. 1928); L. Cay. 1928.
ONYX. TB–Y9L (Wmsn. 1928); L. Long. 1928; (KOYA × ——).
ORTRUD. TB (Mor. Reg. 1924); L. Sturt. 1928.
Otoba-no-taki. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.
OVERTONES. TB (McK. 1928).
PALOMA. TB (Mohr. 1928); L. Schreiner 1928.
PAUL HUET. TB–S3M (F. Cay. 1928); L. Cay. 1928; C. M., S. N. H. F. 1924.
PAUL VERONESE. TB–S3M (Vilm. 1928); L. Vilm. 1928; C. M., S. N. H. F. 1926.
PEACHBLOW. TB–S4L (Clev. 1928); L. Weed 1928.
PHEDRE. TB–S3L (Cay. 1928); L. Cay. 1928; C. M., S. N. H. F. 1928.
PLUIE D'OR. TB–Y4M (Cay. 1928); L. Cay. 1928; C. M., S. N. H. F., Dykes Medal 1928.
Razona. TB–S3M (Sim.); L. Sheets 1928; ROZANNA.
REFNA. TB (Dykes 1928).
Regulus. IB–S9L (Vilm. 1928); L. Vilm. 1928; C. M., S. N. H. F. 1926.
RHADI. TB (Dykes 1928).
RHEA. TB–S9M (Wmsn. 1928); L. Long. 1928; (ISOLINE × ——).
RIPSIME. Jap. (Chi. 1928); L. Chi. 1928; (No. 75).
Romance. TB–S7M (Mur. 1928); L. Orp. 1928; (IMPERATOR × SHEKINAH).
Rose-Marie. TB–S9M (Cay. 1928); L. Cay. 1928.
SADARABAD. Jap. (Chi. 1928); L. Chi. 1928; (No. 216).
SAGAMORE. Sib. (Berry 1928); L. Berry 1928; (**savannarum** × **fulva**).
SAN LUIS REY. TB–S9D (Mohr-Mit.-Salb. 1928); L. Salb. 1928.
SANTA ROSA. TB L. Schreiner 1928.
SAPPORO. Jap. (Vilm. 1928); L. Vilm. 1928; C. M., S. N. H. F. 1928.
SEA FOAM. TB–W6 (Sturt. Reg. 1927); L. Sturt. 1928; (BRIDESMAID (DB) × SOPHRONIA).
SENATOBIA. TB–S9M (Sim. N.) H. M., A. I. S. 1924.
SENORITA. TB–S3L (Mohr-Mit.-Salb. 1928); L. Salb. 1928.
Setsu-no-homare. Jap. (Tigo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.
Shiko-no-tama. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.
Shinomex. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.
Shishinden. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.
Somegoroma. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.
SORCERY. TB (Mur. N).
Sordida. TB–S6L (Wmsn. 1928); L. Long. 1928; CARNIVAL.
SOUBRETTE. TB (Clev. 1928); L. Clev. 1928.
Souv. de Lieut. de Chavagnac. DB L. Wayman 1928.
STIPPLES. TB–W2 (Essig 1928); L. Salb. 1928; (NUEE D'ORAGE × OPERA).
STORM. TB–S6D (Mur. 1928); L. Orp. 1928; (DEJAZET × ORANGE QUEEN).
SUBOTAI. Jap. (Chi. 1928); L. Chi. 1928; (No. 188).
TEBRACT BRILLIANT. Cal. (Perry 1927).
TEMPLE FLOWER. Jap. (Chi. 1928); L. Chi. 1928; (No. 223).

TERTIO. Spuria (Mil. 1924); L. Wayman 1928.
Toa-no-ho. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.
TRISTE. TB (Mur. N).
Tsukuba-no-mine. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.
UNCLE REMUS. TB–R7D (Essig 1928); L. Salb. 1928; (ORIFLAMME × SOUV. DE MME. GAUDICHAU).
VASHTI. TB (Dykes 1928).
VERTE GALANTE. TB–S9D (Cay. N).
WALDHEIM. TB–B3M (Koeh. 1928); L. Koeh. 1928.
WHITE AND GOLD. TB–W (Nic. Reg. 1927); L. Nic. 1928.
WHITE STAR. TB–W (Nic. Reg. 1927); L. Nic. 1928.
Winsome. TB (Mur. N).
WITCHERY. TB (Mur. N.).
WRAITH. TB (Mur. N.).
Yaeguruma. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.
YAMA YAMA. Jap. (Chi. 1928); L. Chi. 1928; (No. 181).
Yoyama-garasu. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.
Yoyo-no-sakae. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.
YVES LASSAILLY. TB–W3 (Cay. 1928); L. Cay. 1928; C. M., S. N. H. F. and Spec. Prize 1928.
ZAMPA. TB–B3M (Cay. 1928); L. Cay. 1928.
ZINGARA. TB–Y6 (Wmsn. 1928); L. Long. 1928.
ZINGARELLA. TB–S9D (Cay. N); C. M., S. N. H. F., 25 May 1928.
Zuisho. Jap. (Higo-Chugai. 1928); L. Chugai. 1928.

CATALOGUES OF THE YEAR

BY R. S. STURTEVANT

In the early days of the Society it was a simple matter to sit down with all the specialist's lists and compare one with another as to format and type, new introductions and prices but to-day such a summation would be encyclopedic.

There are still bargain lists of sorts, simple price lists, and more pretentious catalogues with or without illustrations and with or without monotonously alluring descriptions. And again, as before, our real interest is divided between the newcomers in the commercial field and the older growers who still maintain and express decided preferences for this or that variety and its use.

The Iris Papers by R. Marshall are still one of the most refreshing bits of iris chat and his descriptive price list, the varieties arranged in color groups, and the descriptions based on chart color and variety comparisons, is markedly good. The absence of mean-

ingless superlatives is most pleasing. His introduction of the white versicolor, Stella Main, adds to our list of apogons.

The Cobble Cottage Gardens is the most delightful of selling schemes I have met for years. Mr. Whipple devotes a full half of the space to a whimsical chat on the fifty best and incidentally reveals a thorough knowledge of some two hundred others that are almost as good. His descriptions also are clever and the frankness of "saving a piece as a most satisfactory example of what an iris should not be—the rest went over the fence" tickled me immensely.

The distinctive note of "Over the Garden Wall" is the description of a planting arranged according to origin and breeder. Otherwise it is a mere price list and I shall avoid the dangerous question of relative prices.

It is a pleasure to find that the majority of catalogues both use symposium ratings, and recommend the Iris Society to their readers while a few even acknowledge the help of the standard description and even fewer ignore our rules of nomenclature. At least one of the Dutch catalogues (H. Ouden and Son) follows American regulations while the English ones do not hesitate to await action by their own Society on even as well established a question as that of nomenclature. Among the Americans the catalogue of Lee R. Bonnewitz is the only one that I have run across that conspicuously omits both peony and iris ratings and, in irises at least establishes its own rules of nomenclature. One would think that a firm that has done so much for both irises and the Society would appreciate the value of a consensus of opinion on both ratings and standardized nomenclature. Much as we may dislike some of the individual decisions on these points it seems most short sighted to go contrary to the established rulings not only of the Society but of the American Committee on Nomenclature.

This catalogue reflects also both the advantages and disadvantages of including comparison of other varieties in a description of an individual variety. If simple, such a comparison is most helpful but if overdone it is confusing and if one have patience to follow such clues it may become as entertaining as a cross-word puzzle and as ridiculous as some of the words included therein. I take great pleasure in Mr. Bonnewitz' enthusiasm for beauty in flowers but I question the value of placing Argonaut on a par with Princess Beatrice or of comparing Margaret Moor with Susan Bliss, Dream, Marion Cran, and Aphrodite. A well-worded comparison of a poor

thing to a good one is fine salesmanship unless it is so overdone as to arouse suspicion and then it becomes as useless as the over-use of superlatives.

Quality Gardens has an exceptionally well-dressed catalogue and I always start with the Foreword, partly because it is good reading but, I am afraid, partly because I am always hoping that it will be a bit more American in its point of view. A list of the very latest and finest European Irises (not yet available) is one of the most interesting bits in the catalogue and shows what an excellent judge Mrs. Pattison is. Almost without exception the varieties are those favorably noticed by other experts.

For the real collector Robert Wayman's Price List and the new catalogue of the Treholme Gardens offer the most comprehensive lists I have run across of recent years. The first is fairly non-selective as to quality whereas Mr. Sheets (with more space at his disposal) gives good reasons for even the poorly rated. For the student his descriptions are markedly thorough and helpful. His private ratings on exhibition and garden value average no higher than those in the symposium and though my experience with some varieties varies from his reports that is only to be expected in a different clime or garden. He gives height accurately and is the first in this country at least to record seasons from very early to very late. This in itself is a real contribution even though it records the facts in only one possibly small district. The premiums offered to customers who become members of the Society are only approached by those of J. C. Nichols, another newcomer among the commercial growers. Whatever the actual returns to the Society may be we owe much to their generous expression of interest.

Col. Nichols has entered the field with premeditation as is shown both by his wise selection of varieties and by his carefully conducted course of breeding. The results show both in his catalogue (particularly in the composition of the collections) and in his nursery at Ithaca, which I hope many of you will visit at the next annual meeting.

"The Master List" that was so helpful a decade ago to all iris growers appears now under the guise of Northbrook Gardens. It is of as high quality as before but as a policy I think loses value from the present amount of competition.

I will close with the briefest of mentions of two little leaflets from the Sass Brothers and C. H. Hall respectively. I wish that

more growers could afford to offer only their own productions. Previously the Sass seedlings have come into circulation through The Glen Road Iris Gardens and, to a lesser extent, other sources, while Mr. Hall has from the first kept his stock in his own hands and now reaps (I hope) the profits long due him for the quality of his productions. The A. I. S. awards were well merited and the prompt increase in prices of these varieties becomes a necessary protection to the originator. I sincerely hope that others will not cut prices on a basis of a small stock in order to reap his well-deserved returns. I know of few breeders who have more thoroughly tested the hardiness and vigor of their introductions.

Again let me emphasize that a full review of catalogues has become impossible and that my selection has been largely accidental from those most conveniently at hand.

THE 1928 IRIS SYMPOSIUM

By John E. Hill

The relation existing between the exhibition value and the garden value of 682 varieties of Tall Bearded Irises is shown by an analysis of the figures given in the 1928 Symposium recently published.

Of the 682 varieties listed, 119 have an exhibition rating of 85 per cent. or more. All but four of the 119 kinds have a garden rating of 80 per cent. or more and all but 36 have a garden rating of 85 per cent. or more. Of the remaining 563 varieties only 18 have a garden rating of 85 per cent. or more and all of these 18 have an exhibition rating of 80 per cent. to 85 per cent. Summarizing the two groups, 101 varieties with a garden rating of 85 per cent. or more have an exhibition rating of 80 per cent. or above. The difference between the exhibition rating and the garden rating for the 101 varieties is less than 5 points or per cent. in 95 per cent. (approx.) of the number. In other words the finest exhibition varieties are the finest garden varieties in the judgment of the jurors.

Using the total number, 682 varieties, we find that in 575 (approx.) cases or 85 per cent. (approx.) the difference between the exhibition value and the garden value is less than 5 points

or per cent., and in very few cases (2 per cent. approx.) is the difference 10 or more points.

The agreement between the two ratings is very close and the exhibition rating may be used as the garden rating if we except a few varieties.

The question is asked—have we judged the garden value correctly? Have we for practical purposes eliminated the low growing or (and) small flowered varieties from our garden pictures?

MY AMENDED SYMPOSIUM

By J. Marion Shull

In order to make the Symposium more serviceable for my own particular purpose I have added certain private marks, as doubtless many others will do in their own different ways to meet their own peculiar needs.

Assuming that the stability of ratings depends chiefly on the number of judges involved I have chosen to mark all those varieties that in the opinion of 10 or more of the jurors deserve a garden rating of 80 or above. I include only the garden rating because that is my chief interest in the development of the Iris. This marked list numbers 175 varieties.

A second distinguishing mark covers all those that in the judgment of 5 or more deserve a rating of 85 or more. In this list I find 80, duplicating of course many in the first list, but including a number of the newer things not yet sufficiently distributed to be reported on by the larger number of jurors.

A third mark goes to those that 5 or more judges have considered worthy of 90 or higher and the list is naturally much smaller. Here we have only 11 varieties.

In this amending of my copy of the Symposium it has not seemed desirable to reduce the number of jurors below 5 because at these low levels personal preference is apt to be so little diluted by striking an average. It therefore does not take into account such highly rated things as Purissima, where 4 have given a rating of 95, for all these high ratings based on a small number of votes are almost certain to be sharply reduced when wider distribution sums up behavior under widely varying conditions.

Left unmarked in my list are some that any one of us would not wish to be without, even aside from those newer things that fail because of the small number of votes received, but generally speaking this marked list represents the choicest that the Iris world of to-day has to offer. With these three separate markings the number of marked varieties amounts to 205. Naturally those varieties that receive all three marks are the outstanding 9 of the entire Symposium. They are those that 10 or more have rated at 90 or above and are as follows. Ambassadeur 91 (41), Bruno 90 (29), Cardinal 90 (31), Germaine Perthuis 90 (23), Mary Barnett 90 (15), Morning Splendor 91 (34), Pioneer 90 (16), Princess Beatrice 90 (38), and Souv. de Loetitia Michaud 90 (10). In fact these nine have been awarded these high ratings on a minimum of 15 votes and are therefore in a class by themselves.

Mrs. Valerie West is at 91, but by only 8 votes, and Sir Michael at 90 by 7 votes. The only other varieties with a garden rating of 90 or above are Candlelight 94 (4), Dolly Madison 91 (3), Petruchio 90 (4), and Purissima already mentioned.

Incidentally these 205 varieties so highly placed by the Symposium segregate as to origin as follows: 86 American, 68 English, and 45 French.

Tid-Bits 17th

Although without descriptions the mere names of Irises considered worthy in the various seedling classes at the Vincent Square Show, June 8th, will be watched with interest. Iris Romance (Murrell) and Maisie Lowe (Lowe and Gibson) received Silver Medals while Rhadi (Dykes) received a Silver Gilt Medal. In the classes for six seedlings Mrs. Dykes received a Silver Gilt for Irises Averil, Cloda, Fedalma, Refna, and Vashti while Mrs. Murrell received a Silver Medal for Witchery, Seraph, Wraith, Snowdrift, Winsome, and Triste.

In the class calling for three seedlings Mr. and Mrs. Murrell came first with Aquarelle, Bezant, and Sorcery, Mr. Pilkington second with Manitoba, Tasmania, and Sierra Leone. The following were not considered sufficiently outstanding for the Dykes Memorial Medal award although certain of them were among the prize winners in their class: Rhadi, Romance, Blue Chintz, Grey Lady, Fedalma, Maisie Lowe, and No. 228 (Perry). Among the

non-bearded Irises were Te-bract, Brilliant, Delavayi pallida, and Chrysowegi from Mr. Perry and I. Lucasta from Mr. Yeld.

In the July Bulletin of the Garden Club of America, Mrs. Martineau in her notes from the Chelsea Show commends Storme as good, "not very tall but of delicious smoky brown and purple, and curiously enough the same cross (Dejazet × Orange Queen) as Sunbeam, canary colored, and Moonbeam, primrose, two lovely Irises. They also showed that fine tall Grace Sturtevant raised by Bliss, of chestnut and brown velvet."

Mrs. Robert C. Hill writes so delightully in the same bulletin that I am quoting her in full, whereas for Mrs. Lloyd's much longer discussion in the September issue I must refer you to the Bulletin itself.

"What more exhilarating sport than standing up for your favorite Irises against all your equally opinionated Iris-fans! This year we have been steeped in Iris and had plenty of time to see the best collections at our leisure and compare minutely such similar (?) varieties as Asia and Sindjkha. I am convinced against my will that the Dominion seedlings are really all that is claimed. There is a certain sturdy look about the falls of a good Dominion seedling, a certain strength to its stem, and a certain clarity of blend that places Bruno, Cardinal, Gabriel, Pioneer, and Romola well up at the head of the list. Far the most beautiful novelty that we saw this season was Sir Michael so rare that its prohibitive price is $50.00 for a tiny rhizome. In a year or two it will be down within reach of mortal purse. It has to be proven for a few years to see whether it is a practical garden variety in our climate or whether it is too large for a small garden as is true of Ambassadeur, Magnifica, and Lent A. Williamson. But it seemed to us as we saw it in Mr. Wayman's garden the most glorious dark warm claret Iris we ever saw. Last year we felt the same about Asia, but as it is blooming here in our garden the thrill of novelty has worn off and we can see only a glorified Sindjka with more of an amber glow to its blended pastel colors.

"One has to live with one's Iris, see them at all hours of the day, to watch whether the hot sun wilts them, or whether they stand up in all weathers like old Albert Victor, or Queen Caterina before you can say 'this or that is the best Iris in my garden.' For the beautiful big pale mauve Santa Barbara, which does so well on the Pacific coast in full sun 'flops' in our damp climate; Lent A. Wil-

liamson has never learned to stand up straight, he sprawls over all his neighbors and is not fit for a lady's garden, and even Isoline, which blooms gorgeously for me, has a bad name with the Iris Society as a shy bloomer.

"Among the best Iris we saw this year were Rose Madder tall and velvety; Robert Wallace, good warm purple; Gold Imperial; Moonlit a streaky ruffled white; Duke of Bedford a dark claret of medium height; Morning Splendor, Mr. Shull's Iris which was awarded the Garden Club of America Medal, holds its own among all these imported beauties."

Moraea iridioides. "Do you know the perennial, Moraea, which resembles an Iris? It has rush-like leaves, and long stems bearing white, three-inch flowers with yellow claws and the style crests are marked with blue. You may have heard that this "Iris" blooms every two or three weeks, and wondered why your plant was so shy.

"Through four years of ignorance, I let a tidy gardener cut down the whole stalk when the first bloom had faded. The only pruning necessary is to break off each withered blossom and to let the rusty looking stem send out buds all along its length."

This from Mrs. E. J. Bissell in the Garden Club of America Bulletin gives a California experience of what we know as a well-domesticated house plant.

IRIS WATTI IN THE EAST. James C. Stevens, Greenville, N. Y.

After seeing *Iris Watti* growing in Mr. Berry's garden at Redlands, California, in March of 1927, I was determined to try it here in the east, although I knew that it was tender.

My root (which was the end of a long underground runner with new roots well started) arrived toward the end of April. It was planted in an old agate sauce-pan about ten inches in diameter and five or six inches deep with several holes in the bottom for drainage. A dish of this kind I find much better than a clay pot As most Evansias like humus, a mixture mostly of leaf mould with a little sand and good garden soil was used.

The main stalk only grew to a height of about eight inches the first summer, but several new shoots started toward the middle of August and two more appeared in the fall.

During the fall the pan was taken into the cellar every freezing night and set out again in the morning in the sunniest location

possible. It is said that Watti as well as Japonica likes half shade, but I find that full sun here in the east is better for them unless possibly in the very hottest weather. But they must have sufficient moisture all the time. When the weather became too cold through the day the pan with other plants was placed in a frame covered with glass-cloth and built over a cellar window. This faced the east and the window was kept open all the time so that it was heated from the furnace in the cellar. During severe weather the plants had to be taken into the cellar but most of the time the temperature was between 40 and 50 Fahrenheit until March at least.

About the middle of March the flower buds began to show. Not only the main stalk but two of the smaller fans also produced buds. The plants were left in the window frame until the first of April and then were taken upstairs to a sunny window in the living-room. The first bloom opened on the eighteenth and the accompanying picture was taken on the twenty-ninth. The last bloom faded on the first of May.

After blooming the roots were moved to a larger pan and two offsets were started in other pans. By the fall of 1928 there were six fans in each group beside four that were removed and started by themselves. This year the stalks are very typical in growth and some are over two feet in height.

I have found Watti very tender and not able to withstand as much frost as Japonica.

AN AUSTRALIAN NOTE from L. W. Wheeler, South Australia.

"The area of Australia is about 3,000,000 square miles but its population is only about 6,000,000 most of which is 'crowded' into

a few hundred square miles along the coast. Some of the sheep ranches carry one sheep to the square mile and yet Australia produces about two-thirds of the world's supply of merino wool. The East West railway has done much for development and the North South is expected to open up even greater areas.

"North Australia is in the tropics while the garden state of Tasmania enjoys a mild climate. The work of the Victorian gardeners in daffodils, gladiolus, and chrysanthemums is winning wide recognition while in Western Australia, E. H. Wilson learned of 4,000 species and Dr. A. W. Hill, of Kew, stated that it could boast the most interesting flora in the world.

"All this is by way of perspective. Iris gardens and nurseries are few, there is none in South Australia though in Victoria there are a few bulb growers that list as many as 150 varieties of Irises. Ballerine, Lent A. Williamson, Ambassadeur, and Lord of June represent the more expensive kinds and the aristocratic children of Dominion do not yet appear in Australian lists. Hence the enthusiast must import for himself and usually does import from England though I have found that rhizomes from California arrive in better condition and are more easily established. This is probably due to the similarity of climate. A few of my rhizomes from Salbach bloomed a few weeks after arrival and though I have never completely lost an English shipment the roots are always much shriveled on arrival. Rhizomes arriving about August (the best month), September, or October establish themselves quickly and about 80 per cent. bloom the following year whereas those coming in November or later must be coddled through our hot season.

"*Iris stylosa* begins to bloom in May and continues into September. It spreads like a weed and in some gardens it is treated as such and thrown out but in most gardens it is appreciated for its hardiness, beauty, and winter bloom. The early dwarfs and a few of the tall varieties such as Crimson King, Kharput, Gorgeous, and Soledad bloom in August which corresponds to your February-March. San Gabriel begins in late August and *I. susiana* in early September. This old Iris likes our climate and will bloom and multiply freely if the drainage conditions are favorable and the sub-soil fairly rich in humus. I hope to have some experience of *I. Lorteti* and *Gatesi* another year. *I. tingitana* begins early in August and multiplies freely though sometimes it forgets to bloom.

"The great family of the Tall Bearded begins the latter part of August and carries on well into December, while the Japanese begin in November and continue into January so that there is only a short period when Irises are out of bloom. The "Ochros," some of which reach six feet, bloom during November and are best in shade and continual moisture. Certain Californian species grow readily from seed and multiply rapidly. The beardless rhizomes do not travel well.

"Rhizomes for Australia should be packed bone dry with a sprinkling of charcoal dust to prevent rot spreading as that is the chief trouble.

"Some of the vigorous growers with me are Caterina, *cypriana,* Ballerine, Lady Foster, Avalon, Lent A. Williamson, Ibpal, Miss Willmott, Soledad, Sindjkha, Mme. Durrand, etc., while some of the backward ones are Shekinah, Black Prince, Col. Candelot, Lord Lambourne, B. Y. Morrison, and Flammenschwert.

"I have calculated that Eldorado, Isoline, Lent A. Williamson, Alcazar, or Caterina could each multiply 1,000 times in six years. Some of these have increased 30–60 times in three years. Some of my favorites to date are Avalon, Caterina, Eglamour, Harpalion, Lord Lambourne, Ambassadeur, Mme. Chobaut, Sindjkha, M. Cornuault, Eldorado, and Mildred Presby. Those derived from *Ricardi* and like species suit our conditions and in most cases the plants are fresh and green looking throughout the year."

IRIS BORER; from Mrs. L. M. Bach, Bloomington, Ill.

After many years of hand picking I now cut all leaves to about six inches in late fall and clean out debris. Then about Nov. 1st and again about April 1st I spray with kerosene emulsion; one can fish soap to 1 gallon boiling water; when cool add 2 gals. kerosene and in using dilute to a 1 to 20 mixture. I had very few borers this year.

For rot I dust about the roots after flowering and in clumps where I have had much trouble I clear away the soil and then bury the sulphur about the neck of the plant. Even where it had started, a good cleaning and dusting with the sulphur seems more beneficial than the permanganate treatment.

In Memoriam

Notice of the death of Mr. Sam Burchfield has just reached me (November 20th) and I wish to record this passing of one of our foremost private growers of Irises. From the earliest years of the Society he has passed on to me his experiences and reflections on varieties. In 1924 I had the pleasure of meeting him in Mr. Williamson's plot, where we argued muchly and finally shared a diminutive seedling that had been relegated to the dump. An appreciation of such a wee flower was typical of Mr. Burchfield's whole attitude toward his hobby. He liked best the unusual thing, particularly if it were a strange species or color His introductions were often of this type, dwarfs or dull blends that appeal only to the discerning eye. Perhaps if I had known him in everyday life I should find that such a liking was typical of his whole attitude toward the world. He was greatly enthusiastic—his hobby meant much to him—and yet he was unassuming and most reluctant both to desert a once formed opinion and to enforce it upon another—but once did I succeed in getting him to appear in our bulletins. He has passed on but for those of us who have met him there are many pleasant memories.

R. S. S.

TO-READ OR NOT-TO-READ

IRISES, by F. F. Rockwell, The Home Garden Handbooks; Macmillan Co. $1.00.

This latest small handbook on Irises is dedicated to our good friend B. Y. Morrison and is a worthy addition to our shelf of Iris books. Within a small space is given a most comprehensive view of the Iris family and most detailed recommendations as to their special needs. Irises for Every Garden, Types and their Uses, Dwarf, Intermediate, Tall Bearded, Japanese, Some Lesser Irises, Bulbous, Culture, Propagation, Enemies, and Recommended Lists are the Chapter headings and each subject is aided by well selected line drawings. To Charter members of the Society this little book will bring nothing new but for the newer members I think it in many respects even better than "The Iris" by Mr. Wister, or

"Irises in the Little Garden," by Mrs. McKinney. It is to be sure more of a compilation than either of these—it expresses little real love for Irises perhaps—but this very fault makes for a clearer presentation of facts within a small compass.

You will find a number of erroneous generalities such as are almost a necessity in a brief review and unfortunately certain of the cuts are wrongly labeled and the drawing of a "typical commercial division" is far from typical (I hope), but on the whole the text is markedly free from error either in content or typography.

THE PROBLEM OF SPECIES IN NORTHERN BLUE FLAGS, by Edgar Anderson, Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden 15: 232–241. September, 1928.

Mr. Anderson has given us a scientific treatise on Species, what they are and how they originate, and it is only an incidental that he has selected Irises *versicolor* and *virginica* as material. It is, however, a most fortunate happenstance as he had studied them in many localities and the volume gives us many illustrations as well as charts and ideographs illustrative of the wide variations present even in one colony of native Irises.

Since the blooming period of 1923 Mr. Anderson has visited many colonies of Irises ranging from Louisiana and Arkansas to Georgia, Nova Scotia, Ontario, and Minnesota. From each colony were collected many records, many specimens, and it is from a comparative study of these that his conclusions are drawn. I shall pass over the larger phase of the subject and mention but a few points of special interest to the Iris fan.

Iris versicolor L. was found north of the Potomac, in northeastern Ohio, northern Michigan, Wisconsin, and southern Minnesota and the northward, whereas *Iris virginica* L. was found as far south as the Gulf of Mexico and is synonymous with *I. carolina* Radius, *caroliniana* Watson, *Shrevi* Small. At their point of contact in distribution there arise natural hybrids newly named *I. robusta* Anderson, of an intermediate character. In the same colony there occur striking variations in every conceivable characteristic and it was from a mean of many such variations that Mr. Anderson has presented his biometric data in a series of ideographs which form an extremely easily grasped picture of the variation existing.

He finds that though the individuals in one colony may vary widely, there is but slight variation from colony to colony other than a gradual diminution of *I. versicolor* in its southern range and a similar diminution of *I. virginica* in its northern limits. In the experimental plots the plants from the northern localities tend to flower sooner than those from the southern.

A complete albino was found only in *I. virginica* whereas both species developed partial albinos and also deeper toned varieties such as *kermisina*.

The genetic relationships are still being studied although Mr. Anderson has sufficient material to make a preliminary report.

Before closing this brief abstract I wish again to emphasize the splendid illustrations starting with two reproductions from Ehret, G. D., Plantae Depictae, Tab. VI., 1748, pictures of the original herbarium material from Dillenius and Radius and embracing many pictures of the flower, seed, and growth variations within the species.

LES PARFUMES DE FRANCE. Revue Mensuelle, No. 63, Mai, 1928. Grasse, Paris.

I am indebted to Mr. L. F. Hoyt for a copy of this issue containing an article on Irises, and their use in perfumery. It reviews briefly botany and cultivation, and goes deeply into the extraction of perfume, distillation, chemical composition, and a number of formulae for extracts, toilette waters, and pomades. The two colored pictures of Iris fields are charming.

Although *I. florentina* was the orris root of the ancients, *I. pallida* is now used almost entirely and it is grown extensively about Verona, at Illasi, Monteforte, Soave, and Fregnano on the slopes of the limestone hills; in the environs of Florence at Bagno, Rippoli, Pontasseva, and Galluzo; and in France since about 1830, near Seyssel, (Ain) Grasse, Ollioules, (Alpes-Maritimes), and Morbihan (Brittany).

After harvest (the third year) the roots are peeled and dried for distillation by steam, one to three years later. The chemistry of the oil of orris root and its consequent use in commercial preparations is fully considered. Obtainable from Antoine Chiris & Co., 147 Waverly Place, N. Y. City.

Bulletin of **THE GARDEN CLUB** of America. Sept., 1928. An article on Some of the Newer Irises, by Mrs. H. G. Lloyd is one of the best of the year and incidentally very characteristic of these bulletins which I find without exception of the highest quality. It

makes one wonder why a commercial magazine should not at least approach the same high quality.

THE IRIS SOCIETY. Bulletin No. 6. July, 1928.

A most interesting number that adds to the reports of the year articles on culture, Iris Ricardi as a Parent, American Irises by Mr. Mead and Mrs. Hires, pink, scarlet, and red irises and French novelties. To such richness is also added the Report of Trials of Bearded Irises at Wisley, itself of such importance that every member of our society should find it of value.

JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY. Vol. LIII. Part 1. Jan., 1928.

An extremely readable article by Mr. Pilkington and Irises at Wisley, 1925–27. Mr. Pilkington's develops his theme along the lines of originators, taking each in turn and mentioning their finest introductions.

Under the title "A Botanic Garden for the Far West" the November number of American Forests and Forest Life contains a most interesting article on the new California Botanic Garden. In view of the fact that an American Iris Society Test Garden is being established there this article should be of special interest to our members.

The October 15 number of the Bulletin of Popular Information of the Morton Arboretum contains on its front cover a picture of the Iris Test Garden.

NOTICE

Details of the $100.00 Prize offered by Robert Wayman will be found on page 40 of BULLETIN No. 15.

Publications available from Science Press Printing Co., Lancaster, Pa. Checks payable to American Iris Society.

Bulletins

No. 1. June, 1920. The Culture of Irises in the United States. 32 pp. Out of print.

No. 2. January, 1921. Garden Irises, Past and Present. 44 pp. The Development of Tall Bearded Irises in the 19th Century. Sir Michael Foster and his Irises. Registration and notes on hybridization and garden effects. $1.00.

No. 3. June, 1921. Sir Michael Foster and his Work. 32 pp. Illustrated. Out of print.

No. 4. January, 1922. 34 pp. Check List (superseded by No. 8). Free on application.

No. 5. May, 1922. Symposium. 32 pp. Numerical ratings of some 700 varieties which are a most valuable guide to the relative value of standard varieties. 50 cents.

No. 6. October, 1922. Description of Varieties, Part I. 40 pp. Notes on European Irises (see also Nos. 7, 9 and 12). $1.00.

No. 7. January, 1923. Descriptions of Varieties, Part II. 40 pp. Articles by A. J. Bliss, W. J. Caparne, and J. M. Shull. $1.00.

No. 8. October, 1923. Check List, October, 1923. 40 pp. This, together with a supplement and lists of registrations in Nos. 14, 18, and 22, gives the authoritative list of all Iris names. Supply nearly exhausted. 50 cents.

No. 9. December, 1923. A review of the Irises raised by William Mohr. 46 pp. Ill. A detailed review of bulbous Irises and their culture. Descriptions, Part III. $1.00.

No. 10. January, 1924. Irises for the Beginner. 60 pp. Ill. A comprehensive treatment of all Irises adapted to the small garden, with recommended lists of varieties, garden and cultural notes. The Directors consider this BULLETIN worthy of a special edition and a copy is given *free to all new members*. You may well advise your gardening friends to purchase it. On sale to non-members at 50 cents.

No. 11. May, 1924. Beardless Irises. 40 pp. Ill. A complete and compact review of the species and varieties of this group of the Iris family. The articles by W. R. Dykes are of especial interest. $1.00.

No. 12. October, 1924. Notes and Descriptions, Part IV. 40 pp. Ill. This brings the list of descriptions up to about five hundred of the finest varieties. $1.00.

No. 13. December, 1924. A Classification of Bearded Irises. 36 pp. The first published color classification of the group and a valuable reference. 50 cents.

No. 14. January, 1925. Bertrand H. Farr. 68 pp. Ill. The man and his work with Irises. Official records of the Society, 1920–1925, including the Code of Nomenclature, a 1924 Bibliography of Iris Literature, the White and Black lists of varieties. $1.00.

No. 15. April, 1925. Irises of the Future. 40 pp. Ill. Articles by Sydney B. Mitchell, B. Y. Morrison, Sherman Duffy, and others. Trial garden reports and records. 50 cents.

No. 16. July, 1925. A Report on Sterility in Irises. 44 pp. Ill. The first scientific study of the subject and the result of research at the New York Botanical Garden. The American Iris Society has been the first popular flower society to initiate and support scientific research. This BULLETIN is not recommended to the casual reader. Supply limited. 50 cents.

No. 17. October, 1925. Japanese Irises and Others. 44 pp. Ill. Prof. Miyazawa speaks of his iris work, M. Denis writes of White Irises, and others tell of their successes. It is an unusually chatty issue. 50 cents.

No. 18. January, 1926. 48 pp. Reports of Officers and of Trial Gardens. Text of Display Garden Agreement. 1925 Bibliography. 1925 Introductions and Registrations. Extracts from Les Iris dans les Jardins, by M. Correvon. $1.00.

No. 19. April, 1926. W. R. Dykes. 40 pp. Ill. Dedicated to the memory of W. R. Dykes, a most interesting and permanent record of a life's work with irises. It includes the most valuable of his occasional writings. Further technical notes on sterility. 50 cents.

No. 20. July, 1926. The Iris of Gerard's Herbal. 32 pp. Illustrated from the original. Iris combinations for the garden. Reports of 1926 exhibitions. 50 cents.

No. 21. October, 1926. Planting an Iris Garden. 44 pp. Ill. Further Studies in Sterility. Iris flavissima and many odd notes from England and America. Supply limited. 50 cents.

No. 22. January, 1927. Exhibition Policy. 60 pp. Ill. 1926 Society Records. 1926 Bibliography. 1926 Introductions and Registrations. Further Sterility Studies. $1.00.

No. 23. April, 1927. Memoriam, Arthur H. Scott. 48 pp. Ill. The value of Iris breeding by S. B. Mitchell. Is scientific research necessary?

1926 Test Garden reports, from the New York Botanical Garden, Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Cornell University, Missouri Botanic Garden. Regelia and Onocyclus Iris. Book reviews. 50 cents.

No. 24. July, 1927. 40 pp. European Iris notes. Reports of 1927 exhibitions. Regelio-Cyclus Irises in Canada. Book reviews. 50 cents.

No. 25. October, 1927. Early Dwarf Bearded Iris. 40 pp. Early flowering species and varieties and their use in the garden. List of Hybrid Iris of W. J. Caparne. Old Iris names. Discussion of the problems of the Iris breeder. 50 cents.

No. 26. January, 1928. 1927 Reports. 68 pp. Charter and By-laws. Science Series No. 1, The Iris Borer. Irises in California, England, and Italy. The Questionnaire—facts of Interest. 50 cents.

No. 27. April, 1928. 64 pp. Garden Reports. The Test Gardens and their Work. Science Series 2, Breeding. Flowering Periods, Prices, and Gardens. Writings of Sir Michael Foster. Book Reviews. 50 cents.

No. 28. July, 1928. 64 pp. An Up-to-the-minute rating of hundreds of varieties, thus supplanting No. 5. The Japanese Iris .(illustrated). Plans. $1.00.

No. 29. October, 1928. 68 pp. Garden Irises and Garden Plans. Science Series 3, Chromosomes—Root Growth. 1928 Exhibitions. Notes From Afar. Descriptions, Part V, and Index to all varieties described. $1.00.

Please note the BULLETINS No. 1 and No. 3 are out of print.

For the convenience of members who have joined during the past five years and who wish to complete their sets, the following BULLETINS are offered in sets at reduced prices.

Set A.	All bulletins, 1921–1923, inclusive, Nos. 2, 4– 9, inclusive.	$ 5.00.
Set B.	All bulletins, 1921–1924, inclusive, Nos. 2, 4–13, inclusive.	$ 6.50.
Set C.	All bulletins, 1921–1925, inclusive, Nos. 2, 4–17, inclusive.	$ 8.00.
Set D.	All bulletins, 1921–1926, inclusive, Nos. 2, 4–21, inclusive.	$ 9.50.
Set E.	All bulletins, 1921–1927, inclusive, Nos. 2, 4–25, inclusive.	$11.00.
Set F.	All bulletins, 1921–1928, inclusive, Nos. 2, 4–29,	$13.50.

MISCELLANEOUS PUBLICATIONS

Addisonia, No. 1. $2.00. December, 1924
Addisonia, No. 2. $2.00. March, 1927

The Iris Society (England)

Bulletin, No. 1. $ .50 Each.
Bulletin, No. 4. $1.00 Each.
Bulletin, No. 5. $1.50 Each.
Bulletin, No. 6. $2.00 Each.

(Nos. 2 and 3 are Out of Print.)

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PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW CHECK LIST

The 1922 Check List was sold to members instead of included in the year's membership as a regular Bulletin. It has been decided to follow this same procedure with the new Check List. It is of technical nature and so expensive that the directors have felt that the Society could not pay its entire cost.

Details as to size of the list, date of publication and subscription price, will be sent to all members later.

In order to eliminate the waste of time and effort in arranging for international money orders or drafts—

THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

and

THE IRIS SOCIETY (OF ENGLAND)

are happy to announce

A CO-OPERATIVE MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT

Application for membership in The Iris Society (of England) may be sent direct to the American Iris Society office. Make check for dues ($2.85) payable to American Iris Society; send it to Science Press Printing Co., Lime and Green Streets, Lancaster, Pa. Mark it plainly "For dues for The Iris Society (OF ENGLAND)" and print your name and address.

The object of this service is to increase the popularity of the Iris in both countries and to help build up international friendship and understanding.

AMERICAN PEONY SOCIETY

Twenty-five years ago a small group of peony enthusiasts met and formed the American Peony Society for the purpose of increasing public interest in the peony and establishing a standard nomenclature. Bulletins have been issued during that period dealing with various phases of the peony such as culture, propagation and production of new varieties. Various exhibitions have been held annually and worthy prizes offered in numerous classes comprising the best to be found in the different types of peonies. This interest has increased from year to year and a steady growth of membership has been recorded. Medals are awarded each year in various sections of the country where local peony shows are held to encourage exhibitions of bloom and promote general interest.

At present annual dues are three dollars per year which includes all bulletins issued by the Society during the year. Back bulletins can be secured by members at a nominal sum. No formal application necessary. Anyone interested in flowers eligible. We heartily extend an invitation to join us in our work.

All remittances should be made to the order of the

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Distribution: Fragrance not over 5%; foliage thruout season not over 10%; value for exhibition or as a cut-flower not over 5%; exceptional development of form, color, or substance not over 5% each.

* From Bulletin 15, page 40.